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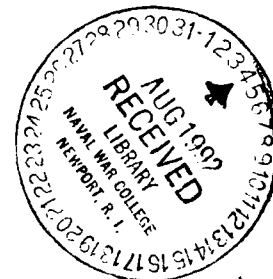


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"MEN, SALT, CATTLE AND BATTLE"  
THE CIVIL WAR IN FLORIDA  
(November 1860 - July 1865)

by

WILLIAM J. GLADWIN, JR.  
Commander, USNR



NAVAL WAR COLLEGE  
Newport, RI



June 1992

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FIELD	GROUP	SUB-GROUP	
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19 ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number)  CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNT OF CIVIL WAR IN FLORIDA, WITH EMPHASIS ON MILITARY OPERATIONS (UNION AND CONFEDERATE), CIVIL MILITARY RELATIONS, STRATEGY, AND OPERATIONS, WITH AN OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY AT THE BEGINNING. MANY NEWLY CREATED MAPS AND CHARTS FROM THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN <u>THE WAR OF THE REBELLION</u> AND OTHER PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIAL.			
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#18 THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR FOR SOUTHEASTERN STATES OF GEORGIA, SOUTH  
CAROLINA AND FLORIDA.

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"Because I love the South, I'm glad  
the Confederacy lost the war."

Woodrow Wilson

This research is dedicated to  
 my maternal grandmother,  
 Sarah Elva Whaley Durrance,  
 affectionately known as  
 "Nanny,"  
 to my children,  
 Sarah, Chandler, Virginia,  
 6th generation Floridians,  
 and to our Confederate forefathers;

John Alexander Durrance, Co. F, First Florida Cavalry,  
 Robert Reed Pigott, Co. D, Third Florida Regiment,  
 Stephen Thomas Pigott, Co. E, First Florida Regiment, Reserves,  
 William N. Pigott, Co. D, Third Florida Regiment,  
 William Zelodis Sasser, Co. D, Third Florida Regiment,  
 Edwin Whaley, Co. A, First Florida Regiment,  
 Thomas Evans Whaley, Co. D, Third Florida Regiment, and  
 John Knott Whaley, age 11-14, helper at Confederate Salt Works  
 on Goose Bay, Wakulla County, Florida.

"LEST WE FORGET"

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## PREFACE

As a young boy growing up in the Panhandle area of North Florida, with stories and accounts about Creek and Seminole Indians, salt works, military battles, hurricanes, and family members who fought in the two Seminole Wars and the War Between the States [American Civil War], I often wonder and asked "what was their life like, what was going on in other parts of Florida at the same time, and where could I find answers to these questions." But, no one I asked really knew or perhaps even cared, for overall emphasis in the 1950's was on the development of Florida into a modern, progressive, and main-line tourist state.

While a student at Florida State University in 1960's I took many history and anthropology courses, some of which "touched" on Florida history and development. But, these courses concentrated more on the historical contribution the State had made or how it "fitted" into the United States as a whole. They never dealt specifically or in depth with the Florida I wanted to know about.

In the late 1970's, with the advent of Alex Haley's book Roots, a new "trend" toward local histories emerged, which revitalized and encouraged interest in regional and family genealogical accounts. As a result, many articles and books have been written about Florida, but again, nothing has been forthcoming which specifically or chronologically listed what happened in the state during the Civil War.

While recalled to active duty to attend the Naval War College Senior Officers Resident Course in 1991-92, I discussed this interest with Professor John B. Hattendorf. With his support and encouragement, and that of the College, I was given the opportunity to devote the last trimester to answering my 35 year old question - "What happened in Florida during the American Civil War."

Because I only had twelve weeks to research, compile and write my findings, I hastily went through the primary source material on the Civil War at the Naval War College, being the 126 volumes of The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, the 32 volumes of The Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion, and the Civil War Naval Chronology 1861-1865, compiled by the Naval History Division, Navy Department, in 1971, for all references on activities in Florida. From these findings I synthesized and edited Union and Confederate reports, letters, charts, etc. into brief paragraphs in descending chronological order from November 1860 through July 1865. Though the Civil War officially began in April 1861 and ended in April 1865, there were references to important activities in Florida before the war in late 1860 and early 1861, as well as, after April 1865, which needed to be included for clarification and continuity for an overall understanding of events.

As such, this research does not represent the sole efforts of the author. As always in a project of this nature, there are many people who deserve recognition, for without their positive assistance and support this study would not have been accomplished. I wish to especially thank the Naval War College, and Dr. John B. Hattendorf, resident holder of the Admiral Ernest J. King, USN, Chair of Maritime History and Director of Advanced Research, at the Naval War College for supporting and giving me the opportunity to do this research while a Selected Naval Reservist attending the College. This project could not have been done without the firm commitment and support of my faculty advisor, CDR Mark W. Hess, USN, Strategy and Policy Department, whose insight and guidance has been invaluable. A special debt of gratitude is owed to Lieutenant Commander John C. Benigno, USN, and Ms. Barbara A. Prisk of the Advanced Research Department for their assistance in helping me become computer literate on Word Perfect 5.1. I am indebted to Mr. Ian C. Oliver and Mrs. Carole F. Boiani and their respective staffs at the Naval War College for supplying the graphics, design and typing expertise required to transform rough drawings, letters and charts into a book quality finished product. An acknowledgment is gratefully due to Mrs. Cecile M. McNamara for her permitting me to use her ten volume set, The Photographic History of the Civil War, published in 1912, in my research, and to Mrs. Barbara Mattick for all of the assistance and material she has so expeditiously sent me from the Florida Archives in Tallahassee. Finally, my fondest thanks go to my wife, Susan, and my children, Sarah, Chandler and Virginia, for their patience and understanding.

William J. Gladwin, Jr.

Newport, Rhode Island  
June 1992

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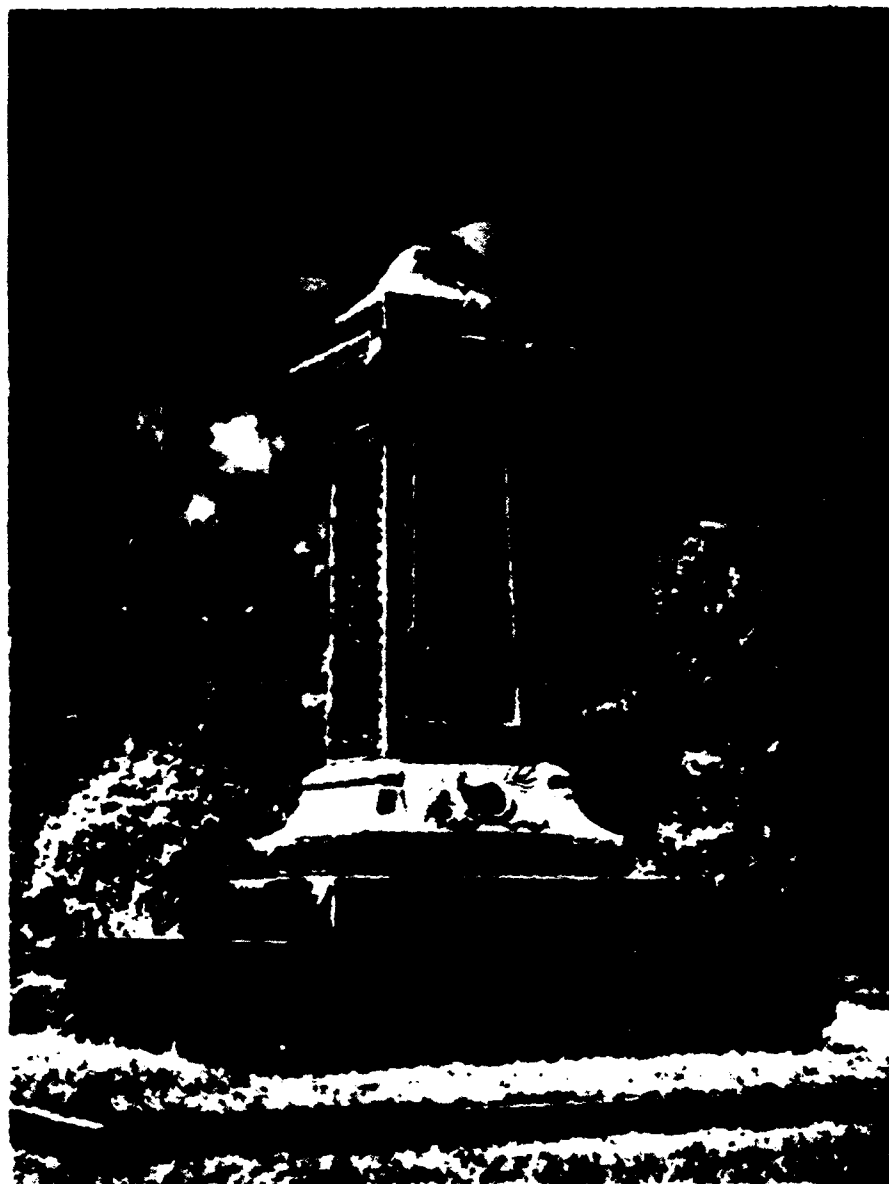
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**THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA**  
**(November, 1860 - July, 1865)**



## **PART ONE: OVERVIEW**



## Chapter I

### FLORIDA IN 1861

In 1819, Spain ceded Florida to the United States in the Adams-Onis Treaty. Following ratification of the treaty on February 22, 1821, it became the Florida Territory. By January 1861, Florida, one of thirty-three states, had been in the Union for almost sixteen years. It was admitted on March 3, 1845, as the 27th state and a slave state, along with Texas. In order to maintain the delicate political balance between free and slave states, Florida's admission was off-set by the admission of Iowa in 1846 as a free state.

Geographically, Florida occupied a conspicuous place between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The Florida peninsula was like a finger of the great North American continent that pointed southward toward the Caribbean Sea. Most of the state was low-lying, but there were gently rolling red clay hills in the western extension, called the "Panhandle." A long arc south and west of Biscayne Bay in the southernmost portion of the state was a chain of coral and limestone islets referred to as the "Florida Keys." No part of Florida was more than 60 miles (97 km.) from tidewater. The total land area was 58,664 square miles (151,939 sq. km.), with a coastline of 1,300 miles (2,100 km.), longer than that of any other state in the war, and intersected by many bays and lagoons. There were more than 30,000 lakes and ponds, and both the east and west coasts were indented by many rivers. This was

ideal for blockade runners and salt water distillation works during the Civil War. The St. Johns River, the most important stream on the east coast, was navigable for nearly 200 miles (320 km.), and flowed northward emptying into the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf Stream near Jacksonville at Mayport. The large rivers in western Florida rose in Alabama and Georgia - Apalachicola, Escambia, Perdido, Choctawhatchee, and the Suwannee - and were the major arteries of trade during the great days of river traffic during the 19th century.<sup>1</sup>

By the mid-19th century, Floridians, like most Americans, were caught-up in the desire to fulfill the idea of an "American Manifest Destiny." They wanted to see the nation stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific. However, with such an expansive interest came "the problem of how to accommodate economic progress, territorial expansion, and constant social change with the ideals and the unique blessings with which the Union had been born."<sup>2</sup> Simply put, there arose conflict between the dictates of the agrarian Jeffersonian decentralized government philosophy, the ambitions of new men on the make, and immigrants "who were changing the face of America by their contributions to industrial, technological, and social change."<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>The Encyclopedia Americana, International Edition, Vol 11, Grolier Inc., Danbury, CT, 1990, pg 424-425.

<sup>2</sup>Parish, Peter J., The American Civil War, Holmes and Meier, New York, NY, 1986, pg 20

<sup>3</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, pg 20: The Encyclopedia Americana, Vol 11, 1990, pg 424-425, 438

Across the United States, from the late 1830's and early 1840's, there was growth, expansion, and change in all directions. People were on the move, not just from the east to the west, but from farm to factory, and from village to city. But this movement, growth, and sense of opportunity was not strictly limited to the U.S. It was felt in Europe, as a result of the "general peace" which developed after the Congress of Vienna in 1814-15 with the end of the Napoleonic Wars and the restoration of a balance of power in Europe. A dramatic and direct result for the United States was the large influx of immigrants from many Northern European countries, particularly Ireland, Germany, and Scandinavia, who moved west across the Atlantic to settle in America. Few of them settled in Florida. The majority remained in the northern and upper mid-western states, particularly in New England, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa.

This same national growth and expansion brought many new settlers to Florida. For the most part, these "immigrants" were predominately from English and Scotch-Irish ancestors. They came from the older southern states of North and South Carolina and Virginia, where the opportunity for expansion was limited, and from Georgia and Alabama due to their geographical proximity. The majority of these newcomers settled in the Panhandle and northeast areas of the state, from Escambia and Santa Rosa counties in the west; through Jackson, Gadsden, Leon, and Jefferson counties in the middle; to Madison, Columbia, Clay, and Duval counties in the east. This stretch of land had fertile soil, ample rainfall, and a long

growing season, was conducive for growing cotton as the principal cash crop, as well as tobacco, sugarcane, corn, sweet potatoes, honey and citrus fruits. The 1860 U.S. Agriculture Census reported Florida produced 65,153 bales (400 pounds each) of ginned cotton, 2,834,391 bushels of Indian corn, 828,815 pounds of tobacco, 436,357 gallons of cane molasses, 1,129,759 bushels of sweet potatoes, and 115,520 pounds of honey. It further indicated the total value of improved farms (654,213 acres) and unimproved farms (2,266,015) to be \$16,435,727.<sup>4</sup> Because this area was good for an agrarian economy, it also perpetuated and promoted the use of slave labor. Other settlers, finding a heavily forested state, developed and expanded the naval stores and lumbering industries, to the point that by 1860, Jacksonville and Pensacola were major shipping ports for pine, oak, cedar, and other kinds of lumber. Unlike the North, small sawmills and planing mills dominated the lumbering industry, rather than large industrial complexes.<sup>5</sup>

Finally, when the Seminole Indians withdrew into South Florida and the Everglades after their defeat in the Second Seminole Indian War in the mid-1840's, settlers quickly moved into the central and southern peninsula, and developed cattle ranching as an important industry. It was during this time that the term "Florida Cracker" came into use. It referred to cattle-men cracking and popping long whips over the herds, while driving cattle on the open range. The

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<sup>4</sup>8th Census of the U.S. for Agriculture, 1860, Sec of the Interior, Joseph C. G. Kennedy, Washington: GPO, 1864.

<sup>5</sup> The Encyclopedia Americana, Vol 11, 1990, pg 429

1860 Agricultural Census reported Florida had 287,725 cattle, 92,974 milk cows, 13,446 horses, 30,158 sheep and 271,742 swine valued at \$5,553,356. It further indicated the value of animals slaughtered in the state in 1860 was \$1,193,904.<sup>6</sup> Thus by 1861, when the Civil War started, Florida's cattle and live stock industry played an extremely important role providing food and leather goods for the Confederacy's western armies in Tennessee and North Georgia.

Because the new European immigrants predominantly settled in the North and Mid-West, and did not migrate to the South, and due to an increased overall national birthrate during the mid-19th century, the North had a numerical advantage in manpower of more than two to one over the South at the beginning of the Civil War. The population of the North was twenty-two million people, four million men of combat age, from twenty-three states. In contrast, the South had with eleven states, with nine million people, of which three and one-half million were slaves. Only 1.2 million men were white men of combat age.<sup>7</sup> The North's population advantage reflected its relative strength under arms. Estimates of the total military force strength were two point one million in the North and eight hundred and fifty thousand in the South. This amounted to 53 percent of Northern fighting population and 71 percent of the

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<sup>6</sup>8th U.S. Census, 1860, Agriculture, 1864.

<sup>7</sup>Davis, Kenneth C., Don't Know Much About History, Crown Publishers, New York, NY, 1990, pg 166.

South's fighting men.<sup>8</sup>

In Florida, the 1860 U.S. Census reported a total population of 140,427, of which 77,750 were white, 56,492 were black slave, 5,253 were mulatto slave, making a total slave population of 61,743, with 932 free blacks.<sup>9</sup> The majority of the slave population was concentrated in Florida's northern counties along the string of counties from Escambia in the west bordering on the Gulf of Mexico and Alabama, to Duval in the east on the Atlantic Ocean and Georgia. Only about one-third of the white families owned slaves. The bulk of the population was yeoman farmers, who cleared the forests, built their own homes, and tended their family farms.

Rapid Northern population growth was linked to the rapid growth of towns and cities, as the industrial and economic base grew. The South did not experience comparable growth (towns, cities, industry, economy) prior the Civil War.<sup>10</sup> By 1861, the ten largest cities in the Florida were: Pensacola (2,876), Key West (2,832), Jacksonville (2,118), Tallahassee (1,932), the state capitol, St. Augustine (1,914), Apalachicola (1,904), Milton (1,815), Fernandina (1,390), Monticello (1,083), and Lake City (659). None of these cities came close to the large northern cities with more than 600,000 inhabitants, such as New York,

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<sup>8</sup>McPherson, James M., Battle Cry of Freedom, Ballantine Books, New York, NY, 1988, pg 306.

<sup>9</sup>8th Census of U.S., 1860, Vol I, Sec of Interior, Joseph C. G. Kennedy, Washington D.C., Gov Printing Office, 1864.

<sup>10</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 21.

Boston, and Philadelphia in the East, and the cities of the Midwest with 100,000, such as Chicago, Cincinnati, and St. Louis.<sup>11</sup>

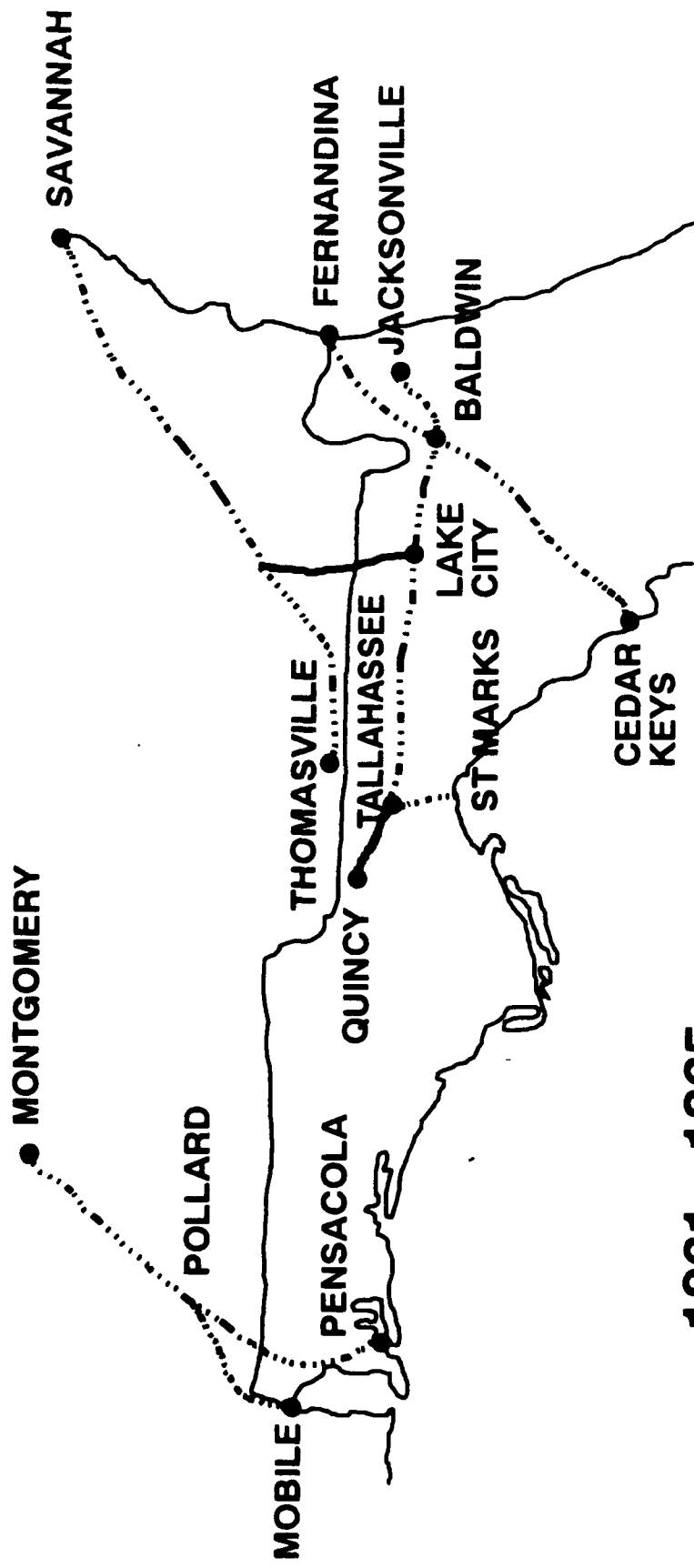
Thus, as a result of shifting population, changing ethnic make-up, regional distribution of wealth, and increased urban concentration, the mid-19th century posed severe problems for a country nurtured on Jeffersonian principles of agrarian simplicity and decentralized government. The balance of federal-state relations was altered by the growth of the nation. This was particularly true in the states west of the Allegheny-Appalachian mountain chain. Half of the people in these states lived in the great central basin of the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes. "As such, the west became the arena in which the sectional competition of North and South was played out."<sup>12</sup> The west (as Grant and Sherman knew) would be the critical front of the Civil War.

In addition to increased population and territorial expansion, American growth was also a product of "road, canal and railroad mileage, numbers of cotton mills and ironworks, production figures, export figures, new industrial techniques and processes, and the proliferation of all the commercial, professional and financial services which industrial growth demanded...[with]...the effects of the transportation revolution being almost incalculable, both in terms of economic growth and sectional alignment, for railroad

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<sup>11</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 21.

<sup>12</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 22.



**1861 - 1865**  
**RAILROADS IN FLORIDA**  
ALL 5' GAUGE

— CONSTRUCTED DURING THE WAR



growth was both cause and effect of industrial growth."<sup>13</sup> Florida, like in the rest of the South, was slow in industrialization and railroad construction. In 1861, there were only two significant railroad lines in the state, one from Tallahassee in the Panhandle, through Baldwin to Jacksonville, near the mouth of the St. Johns River, on the Atlantic Ocean, and another from Cedar Key, near the mouth of the Suwannee River, on the Gulf to Fernandina, near the mouth of the St. Marys River, on the Atlantic, with a junction at Baldwin. There was a small line from Tallahassee to St. Marks, near the mouth of the Apalachicola River, but from all accounts this never had a locomotive, having only mule or horse drawn cars. Finally, there was a small line from Pensacola, near the mouth of the Escambia River, to near Montgomery at Pollard, Alabama, connecting with the Mobile to Montgomery line. All railroads were single track, five foot gauge, and totaled approximately 350 miles. During the war, two short lines were constructed. One extended the Tallahassee-Jacksonville line 25 miles west to Quincy, and another from Lake City connected the Tallahassee-Jacksonville line with the Thomasville-Savannah line in Southeast Georgia, approximately 35 miles of five foot gauge.<sup>14</sup> This was not much rail millage for a state with a such a large land mass, a long coastline, and major ports on the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean.

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<sup>13</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 23.

<sup>14</sup>Griess, Thomas, E., Atlas for the American Civil War, Avery Pub. Group Inc., Wayne, NJ, 1986, pg 2.

Education and cultural activity in mid-19th century Florida was not in the same league with New Orleans, Charleston, Richmond, or Savannah. But, professional theater in the state had a long history. General and Mrs. Andrew Jackson attended theatrical performances in Pensacola in July 1821. Professional theatrical and musical groups played at St. Augustine, Tallahassee, Apalachicola, Pensacola, and Key West before the Civil War. In education, several private academies and seminaries were established, but most were short-lived. In 1853, the state supported a small school in Ocala, called the East Florida Seminary, which eventually became University of Florida. In Tallahassee, the West Florida Seminary opened in 1857. It became Florida State University.<sup>15</sup> As a point of interest, young cadets from the West Florida Seminary played a role in the Battle of Natural Bridge on March 6, 1865, when they joined with Confederate regulars and reserves to stop a Union advance from St. Marks via Newport toward Tallahassee, 15 miles south of the capitol. Because of this action, the Army ROTC unit at Florida State University has a combat streamer on its colors.

Florida's political leadership before the Civil War came predominately from the lawyer-planter aristocracy, which endorsed and supported the Southern point of view on slavery. Like most Southern states, Florida's material growth and its cultural ideals revolved around the plantation, even though only about one-third of the white families owned slaves. Both U.S. Senators from Florida,

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<sup>15</sup>The Encyclopedia Americana, Vol 11, 1990, pg 431-432.

Stephen R. Mallory and David L. Yulee, were not "fire breathing radical secessionists" but were thought to be moderates. In contrast, Governor-elect John Milton, who succeeded Governor Madison S. Perry, on 7 October 1861, was a lawyer and planter from Jackson County, a vigorous States-Righter, and very instrumental in the early secession of Florida from the Union on January 10, 1861. In late 1860 and early 1861, he actively supported and encouraged the Florida Militia, augmented by Alabama and Georgia militia, as necessary, in the seizure of most Federal military establishments in the state. Furthermore, Milton argued the necessity for the office of the governor to have broad war-powers, and, from the beginning, he feuded with the secessionist state convention when it tried to dilute his authority. It came to pass that Milton, as Florida's chief executive during the war, altruistically stressed the state's ability to serve as an important source of food and salt for the Confederate forces. He never failed to raise, outfit, and send troops to the Confederate Army, provide hospital supplies, or meet Confederate requisitions for money. However, because he favored a strong state militia and had his own thoughts on military strategy for Florida, he did not always agree with Confederate military authorities regarding the best means for defending the state.<sup>16</sup> By 1865, as events turned against the South, Milton became mentally depressed at the prospect of defeat and committed suicide at "Sylvania" his plantation near Marianna, on April 1. In his last message to the Florida legislature, he

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<sup>16</sup>The Encyclopedia Americana, Vol 19, 1990, pg 139.

said "death would be preferable to reunion."<sup>17</sup>

Thus, by the mid-19th century, according to historian Peter J. Parish, the nation was caught-up in

"an era of emotionalism, of romanticism, of fervent nationalism, of heady enthusiasms and powerful hatreds. It was, for example, a period when religious revivalism swept across great areas of the United States. Closely related to this was the surge of reforming zeal which prompted an attack on a variety of problems from the treatment of the insane and the physically handicapped, through the temperance and feminist movements, to penal and educational reform. These crusades ... reflected a belief in progress, and in human perfectibility, and a confidence in the individual and his capacity to work out his own salvation... But there was an uglier side, too... It was most clearly demonstrated in mid-century by the hysterical wave of nativism ... A heady brew of super-patriotism, religious bigotry, a sense of insecurity, and a fear of the unfamiliar, nativism latched on to the immigrant ... as the scapegoat for America's problems ... In the 1850's, for a short time it was an open question whether the immigrant or the slave was to provide the issue around which American politics were to achieve a new polarity... Here was an indication of real danger."<sup>18</sup>

With the notable change, emotional excitement, and pockets of reforming zeal that spread across the nation, a fundamental issue might be the catalyst which could set off a chain reaction that political leaders were "ill-equipped" to handle. Slavery was that issue. "It aroused the fiercest moral passions on all sides; it became the focus of attention for reform groups throughout the northern and western states; it revealed the most hideous flaw in the whole American system; its implications, moral, racial, social, political, constitutional and economic, were such that few

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<sup>17</sup>Morris, Allen, The Florida Handbook, 1991-1992, 23rd Biennial Ed., Peninsular Pub. Co., Tallahassee, FL, pg 323.

<sup>18</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 25-26.

Americans could escape them."<sup>19</sup> Unfortunately for the country, the great civil statesmen, orators, and legislators of the past like John C. Calhoun, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and John Quincy Adams, who had peacefully resolved seemingly unresolvable issues, had all passed from the scene. The new leaders, such as Charles Sumner and Salmon P. Chase in the North and Robert B. Rhett, William L. Yancey, and Jefferson Davis in the South, were too entangled in the descending spiral of armed confrontation that had the names of a web of causes --- all of which came down to slavery. They were not strong enough leaders and statesmen to embrace the traditional American political reality of flexibility and compromise. They failed to put aside the narrow view of the few for the greater good of the whole. Masked by the demand for states-rights, self-determination, the right to property, the war was fought over the issue of slavery.

In the North, due to urban-industrial growth and the rise of the industrial working and middle class, both democracy and nationalism took on a new meaning. It meant more than just the right to vote: "it meant individual freedom, [and] a new sense of American nationalism went hand in hand with the new democratic spirit." These northern interests and enterprises spread across the country, with northern businessmen thinking increasingly in terms of "a national market, a national economy, bound together by the railroads and waterways, the banking and credit facilities, and the whole structure of corporate enterprise, which the north-east

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<sup>19</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 26.

largely controlled." In northern eyes the "Union was not just an idea or an ideal, but a going concern."<sup>20</sup> Against this background of industrial growth, immigration, and change, historian, Peter J. Parish noted, "the South felt itself becoming more distinctively Southern, and its peculiar institution of slavery becoming more undeniable peculiar." Though Florida was not in the same political and economic league as the great plantation and slave states of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Virginia, it still based its economy and life style, just as they did, on the twin pillars of cotton and slavery. By the mid-19th century, the invention of the cotton gin solved the problem of separating the cotton from the seed, increased the economic potential of cotton, and made cotton "King." After this, Southern planters depended even more on slaves to farm cotton. As such, the cotton industry and slavery became increasingly interdependent. "Huge vested interests developed in slavery as both an economic and a social institution. The South (and Florida) was stuck with slavery; its capital was tied up in it, its system of agriculture was based upon it, and its social system was founded upon it. Only if it was shown to be hideously unprofitable, utterly unworkable, or fatally disruptive to the southern way of life was it likely to be abandoned," and in 1861, this was not the case.<sup>21</sup>

By 1861 in both the North and the South, the lines were drawn in the moral debate over slavery. On the political side, the

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<sup>20</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 28.

<sup>21</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 28-29.

explosive issue centered on whether to allow slavery to spread into new territories, and whether or not it was to be protected and fostered by the federal government. The question: "was slavery to be permitted not merely to continue where it already existed, nor simply to grow within fixed national boundaries, but to extend indefinitely in an ever-expanding Union?" With the victory of Abraham Lincoln and the Northern sectional Republican party in 1860, many Southerners felt they could no longer bear the challenge to their economic and social systems through "reliance on the constitution, nor even by adherence to the Union itself." And so it was war.<sup>22</sup>

## Chapter II:

### NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN POLICY AND STRATEGY

When the Civil War began neither the North nor the South saw the conflict as the first modern war of social and industrial mobilization which would be the precursor to modern total war. Both sides expected a short war, one or two decisive battles, with limited battle casualties. None of these expectations could have been further from the truth.

The North's seminal policy, guided by the hand of President Abraham Lincoln, was to preserve the Union by repressing any insurgency. The initial policy did not call for the abolition of slavery where it already existed, but, true to the platform he ran

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<sup>22</sup>Parish, The American Civil War, 1986, pg 31, 43.

for president on, Lincoln stood firm in his pledge to disallow any further extension of slavery. As the insurgency grew to widespread rebellion with a confederacy formed between seceding states, the initial policy was "hardened" to a policy to crush the rebellion and, then, free the slaves within the rebellious states. The strategy Lincoln approved seemed, in part, to reflect this "toughening" of policy - from the execution of the Anaconda Plan (virtually completed by mid-1863) to Grant's five-pronged offensive campaigns of May 1864 and the terrible battles of annihilation of that Spring and Summer.

During the first months of the war, the North tried initially to fight a non-total, unlimited war to squelch the Confederate government and army. Union strategy envisioned a "decisive battle" or two to break the Confederacy. Short of any decisive battle, the taking of the capitol at Richmond was thought to be the necessary ingredient to reconstructing the Union. First Manassas (Bull Run) changed the thinking on the level of effort necessary. Total war, with massive calls for more troops and the industrial support for this new, volunteer army were the first steps Lincoln took immediately following the Union defeat. Next, as the insurgency matured into the avid, organized Confederacy, the separate parts of the Anaconda Plan came to fruition. The execution of this strategy required an even greater degree of mobilization. Naval forces for combined operations along coasts and rivers and for enforcing an immense blockade needed to be raised. Armies were needed to oppose those "departments" of Confederate rebellion. The Plan envisioned



the "strangulation" of the Confederacy through ocean and river blockade, division of the Confederacy, and "decisive battles" on multiple fronts to crush Confederate armies. Lastly, the intention to take the Confederate capital at Richmond and thereby quickly end the war were put aside after the abortive Peninsula Campaign, May-August 1862. Lincoln and a few others realized it would be along, dreadful war.

Ultimately, the Union found it necessary to use almost all means available to defeat the Confederacy and win the war (i.e., the large manpower base, an expanded industrial base, extensive communications and transportation infrastructure of waterways and railroads, and established Treasury, monetary instruments and institutions). An economic "head start" paid big dividends in the realization of Northern war demands. It also helped maintain popular support for the war by minimizing inflation. Citizens financed 63 percent of Northern war efforts by purchasing Civil War bonds. The remainder of funds came from the newly instituted "income tax" (20 percent) and levies. Inflation rates hovered around 80 percent at their highest in 1864. This seems high but was considered to be indicative of responsible and effective fiscal policy. the Confederacy in contrast had inflation rates that exceeded 600 percent during the war.<sup>23</sup> On the diplomatic front, Lincoln was careful to preserve "cordial" relations with any European country, particularly Britain, France, and Russia, which

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<sup>23</sup> Ross, Steven T., Naval War College lecture, "The Civil War, a Net Assessment," January 9, 1992, Newport, RI.

might be inclined to recognize the Southern states as a separate nation.

The challenge for the North was selection and implementation of strategies which would achieve a quick victory and support the general national policy. Early Southern battlefield victories placed severe pressure on initial Union strategy.

The South's national policy was to secure independence. By this they would retain states rights, maintain slavery, and, thereby, they expected to preserve the ideals of the Southern viewpoint. At the outset of the conflict, this policy dictated a limited war with less than total means. The South entered the war with a solid corps of army commanders and strategists, - Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, Thomas J. Jackson, Joseph E. Johnston, James S. Longstreet, and Albert S. Johnston. Additionally, the South achieved and propagated early operational excellence in an arm of land warfare - the cavalry. The Confederacy had better cavalry leadership in Nathan B. Forrest, John Morgan, J.E.B. Stuart, and in Florida, John J. Dickison. Superior generalship and some operational advantages remained with the Confederacy until the critical events of the Fall of 1863, when the North found Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman, and its own cavalry master in Philip H. Sheridan.

Another advantage for the South was the inherent advantage of the strategic defense. If this strategy was fully adopted, the South could force the North to wage war in the South's extensive land area. The access of great parts of the South by sea (river or

ocean) could be turned to an advantage for mobile forces augmented by irregular (i.e., cavalry, militia, guerrilla) operations. Defensive strategy also fostered the concept and the image of a man "fighting for his homeland and family against the foreign invader," to appeal directly to the basic instincts of survival during an internecine, bloody conflict. Southern military operations could come to rely on interior lines. Troops could live off the friendly countryside and be more readily supplied with information and assistance or transported. In addition, irregular operations (such as cavalry raids against Union logistics and, sometimes, strategic logistic centers in the North) would be easier to integrate into the over all strategy. A fully defensive strategy was never totally pursued, even after the disasters of Fall 1864. It remains a point of interest and contention whether the Confederacy could have taken advantage of a defensive strategy.

Southern nationalism should also be acknowledged in strategy development. In 1860, the South had a homogeneous, white population of Anglo-Saxon Protestants with a relatively small French Catholic contingency in Louisiana. This fostered a strong central nationalism for the South. The North had a strong patriotic reverence for the "preservation of the Union," but the critical point here was that Southerners clearly viewed their struggle as a restoration of the true principles of the constitution as originally set down by the founding fathers - especially, Article I, Section 10 dealing with slavery and property. Thus, when combined, the homogeneous population, the

concept of "defense of the homeland from foreign invaders," and the belief they were fighting for the true founding principles of the nation, produced an extremely powerful force of nationalism. Southern nationalism proved to be both strong and resilient throughout the war. This surprised many in the North who thought that the war was caused by the "fire breathing planter class." Once that Southern upper class was eliminated from power, Northerners thought that the remaining Southerners would gladly return to the Union. It did not prove that simple.

By early 1862 the South was forced to alter its initial strategy from fighting a less than total, limited war. From that point, the Confederacy waged a total war with all means available. The South pioneered the use of new military weapons, such as torpedoes (floating mines), the submarine, and iron-clad rams. The Confederacy saw the creation of munitions and gun foundries. Of all the previously mentioned factors, this industrial and developmental ingenuity was a surprise. Through the efforts of men such as Josiah Gorgas and George and Gabriel Rains, the arms and munitions industry kept Southern forces equipped and supplied through the war. In fact, the Confederates produced and captured war materiel better than had seemed possible at the beginning of the war. According to Civil War historian, James M. McPherson, "what seemed most significant about Confederate logistics and supply was not the obvious deficiencies, but the ability of southern officials to do so much with so little." Instead of losing the war, McPherson offered the position that arguably "their

[inventors, industrial leaders] efforts did much to keep the Confederacy fighting for so long." (McPherson, James M., "Why Did the South Lose the Civil War," Princeton Alumni Weekly, Princeton, NY, Dec. 7, 1988, pg 21)

Concurrent with the development of new weapons and the establishment of munitions foundries to fight a total war, the South increased the purchase and outfit of blockade runners in Britain and France to supply more of the military needs of the Confederacy. However, in conjunction with this, the Confederacy did not limit military operations to the strategic defensive (i.e., on Southern soil, as there was no political or military requirement for the South to conquer the North). The Confederacy also did not fully exploit its own interior lines, or conduct limited military offensives into the North at key logistic points. All the above strategies fully integrated and complemented may have helped the Confederacy to hold out long enough to weaken that Northern willpower which supported Lincoln's policies to continue the war and force the South back into the Union.

On entering the war, both President Lincoln and Confederate President Jefferson Davis, and their respective military advisors, expected a short war that would be concluded with a Napoleonic-type of "decisive battle." Following the Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee, April 6, 1862, Lincoln, with General Grant, and, later, General Sherman, realized that this concept would not be applicable to this war. Upon seeing the terrible loss of life at Shiloh, Grant realized that the only way to end the war would be the total

destruction of the Southern armies. It was not until June, 1862, in the Seven Days battles, that the rest of the Union would see the war as total war. From June 1862 forward, the war was one of attrition. Lincoln seemed to understand that it had to be fought on multi-fronts to wipe out the Confederate armies by hitting them with superior force, fighting every day and on every front, simultaneously, if necessary. And while all this was in progress, the war required a large navy to effectively blockade Southern ports and remove the means the Confederacy needed to wage war.

For the most part, Southern leaders like Davis and General Lee never fully realized the change in the nature of this war and the inability for most battles to be truly decisive. There were other leaders, such as Generals Joseph Johnston, P. G. T. Beauregard, and James S. Longstreet, who eschewed the concentration of assets in northern Virginia and the importance of decisive battle. But early in the war, they did not hold sufficient military or political power to make their views felt on the "decisive battle" strategy, and they did not offer a comprehensive, integrated defensive strategy to preserve independence. Also, a serious weakness of Lee's operational genius was that his strategic vision was more closely centered on the Eastern theater, and, as a result, no farseeing Confederate military or civilian leader pushed strong enough to strengthen the Western armies, in the Tennessee Valley and Mississippi, to save the Confederacy from defeat. Davis and his generals understood the critical importance of France to the American Revolution. They fought early and aggressively for a

victory of the magnitude and impact of Saratoga to gain foreign support. Confederate diplomats, businessmen, and generals never achieved anything other than some good wishes from foreign governments. The pursuit of battles of annihilation continued. Even when the field was won by often superior Confederate generalship, the South's manpower and its ability to wage total war was being "bled white." Loss of the West ultimately defeated the Confederacy. But only coordinated military action threw open the gates for invasion into the Confederacy's western heartland from numerous fronts that permitted this to happen.

In the beginning, Northern strategy lacked coordination and sufficient means to meet national policy goals. However, since the goals were adequate and did not change, the strategy eventually accomplished the task. By the end of 1862, the Union navy had created an effective blockade of most of the Southern coast and rivers. The Anaconda Plan of General Winfield Scott was quickly implemented, and there were joint army-navy campaigns at New Orleans, along the Ohio River, and at Vicksburg. Lincoln saw the center of gravity move from the capture of Richmond, to the defeat of the major Confederate armies, and, finally, to the South's war making capacity. Grant targeted the South's willpower and ability to continue the war by the conduct of successive and simultaneous multi-front offensives in May 1864: the Atlanta Campaign (followed by the March to the Sea); the Shenandoah Valley Campaign; the Northern Virginia Campaign; the Mobile Campaign; and the South Eastern Virginia Campaign. These campaigns tragically raised the

human cost of the war for both sides. However, one lost battle or failed campaign (i.e., Coldharbor, Mobile) made little impact on Grant's strategy. The North's superior strategy would win the war as long as the support of the Northern people remained and the Union Army could make progress toward the accomplishment of Lincoln's policy.

Because Florida was strategically located between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean with extensive coast line, Union naval strategy and operations were of primary importance. Pericles of ancient Athens said, "He who rules the sea rules the world." He was concerned with the survival of the Athenian Empire against the threat from Sparta and Persia. These words were also true in regard to the total efforts of the Union in Florida during the Civil War. Union sea power permitted the exercise of coastal army action which, despite determination, leadership, ingenuity, and valor, caused the South to eventually lose the state. Had the North prosecuted the war less vigorously and successfully at sea, or the South more effectively developed a check to this maritime supremacy, the war could have been changed. This was a classic case of the "whale versus the elephant." And, in this case, the "whale" prevailed.

Northern naval strategy to control Florida included: (1) a close blockade that starved the industrially deficient South, and prevented economic gain from imports or exports; (2) the capture of key Florida ports that facilitated blockade logistics and forced the South to disperse manpower to counter attacks from the sea and naval strength to run the blockade; (3) the severance of the state



along the rivers and railroads to speed the South's destruction.

Success in this naval strategy brought dividends. First, because the sea afforded great mobility, its control allowed operational flexibility to accommodate changes in strategy. It permitted swift adjustment to emergencies to counter disaster and to turn possible defeats into victories. Second, sea power ensured ships ready to conduct unrelenting attack on shore facilities, ports, and ships. This wasted and seriously weakened Florida. Third, the river force "brown water" sea power of the Union Navy was the spearhead for drives that steadily and inevitably cut Florida to pieces along its water highways. Fourth, sea control enabled the blockade to keep Florida from fully helping the Confederacy. It severely limited any industrial and war materiel imports and curtailed agricultural exports. Though skillful blockade runners brought in much critical material and undoubtedly helped to prolong the war, what they brought was only a fraction of what the South needed. For example, in the first year of the war the South imported approximately 50,000 stacks of arms. Whereas, during that same period, the North (not fully exploiting its extensive arsenals and industrial facilities) imported 700,000 small arms. Fifth, sea control helped gain control of the Atlantic and Gulf coastlines, including the major seaports. This served its part to discourage foreign intervention and recognition, especially from a sea power such as Britain. Sixth, in the conduct of joint and amphibious operations with the navy, the Union army gained the ability to project power to disrupt commerce and

sometimes control key territory. Sea and land forces each had unique advantages, but when the two joined effectively, the results were sometimes powerful. For example, with so much of Florida's important cities and assets close to the sea, the state was more vulnerable from navy or army-navy sea raids than army cavalry raids. Similarly, ships with many troops could be swiftly moved to strategic points and protected behind the massed concentration of naval gunfire. Through the use of fast ships, the Union army was able to strike where the Confederates were weakest. This ability to appear suddenly with massed big guns and troops often gained the advantage of surprise. But, even with all this, the sea rendered other advantages to the Union: the freedom of choice of operation; ease of supply and reinforcement; powerful defense for forces ashore; and means of escape for defeated or withdrawing troops. These aspects were all evident in Union operations during the Civil War in Florida.

All of the above were important in one way or another to Union naval operations in and around Florida, particularly the blockade, and raiding operations, as these two elements of sea control were the most effective in causing the eventual defeat of the state.

Southern strategy for Florida was inadequate at the beginning of the war. The Confederacy was not prepared to fight the war it was required to fight - a long war of attrition. Florida itself was not fully integrated into the military departmental system in other than a piecemeal basis. Due to Northern diplomatic pressures, European intervention became unlikely as the war progressed. Yet,

in the face of non-intervention and non-recognition, the Confederacy had no contingency or back-up strategy to exploit the coastal blockade in Florida to overcome the expected import-export restraints with neutral countries such as Britain and France. Florida could have been a likely point to consolidate the needs of the more populated industrial, mercantile northern tier and emerging southern tier industry (i.e., Columbus, Georgia and Birmingham, Alabama) of the Confederacy with the less populated and mechanized and more agrarian Southern states of the rebellion. The Union ultimately chipped away at the South's ability to wage war from Florida. Even with some British trade and support, the Confederacy in Florida withered and died.

The South did not build a strong navy to seriously disrupt the effectiveness of the Union blockade in Florida. This was a major weakness. In addition, the Confederacy's inability to manufacture what it needed to be self-sufficient made it reliant on allies with navies who had to be willing to run the Union blockade. By 1862, real income and short supplies of manufactured goods could not keep up with wartime demands. Sources of income, including trade, tax, and tariff, were disrupted by the naval blockade and Union invasion. The nature of the Southern economy, based on agricultural export in return for Northern and European manufactured goods, made it dependent on "outside" industrial nations for almost everything except food. The South assumed it could finance the war through the sale of cotton and that the demand for cotton would prompt European recognition of the

Confederacy. This failed. England found alternative sources for Southern cotton, and France would not act unilaterally. Russia viewed the Union as an ally. After 1861 Southern economics started a death spiral while economics in the North actually boomed.<sup>24</sup> From a financial perspective, the Confederate treasury, short on hard currency, was forced to finance the war by borrowing and printing money. Only five percent of the war's expenses came from taxes.<sup>25</sup> This printing press answer to financial need resulted in rampant inflation, at its peak reported to be 9,000 percent.<sup>26</sup> Runaway inflation produced severe hardship throughout the South. The situation became a great burden. High desertions caused combat readiness to decline as men went home to keep their families from starving.

Another serious Southern miscalculation was Union popular support for the war. Northern public opinion remained sufficiently strong to give Lincoln the support he needed to proceed with the war and be re-elected in the fall of 1864. The South made in-roads to neutralize Union support for the war during the counter-offensives of Lee and Jackson in Virginia, and Braxton Bragg and Kirby Smith in Tennessee during the Summer and Fall of 1862. Later, in the doldrums of the Summer of 1864, there were appalling

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<sup>24</sup> Current, Richard N., Why the North Won the War, "God and the Strongest Battalions," Collier Books, New York, NY, 1980, pg 30.

<sup>25</sup> Ross, "The Civil War, a New Assessment," 1992.

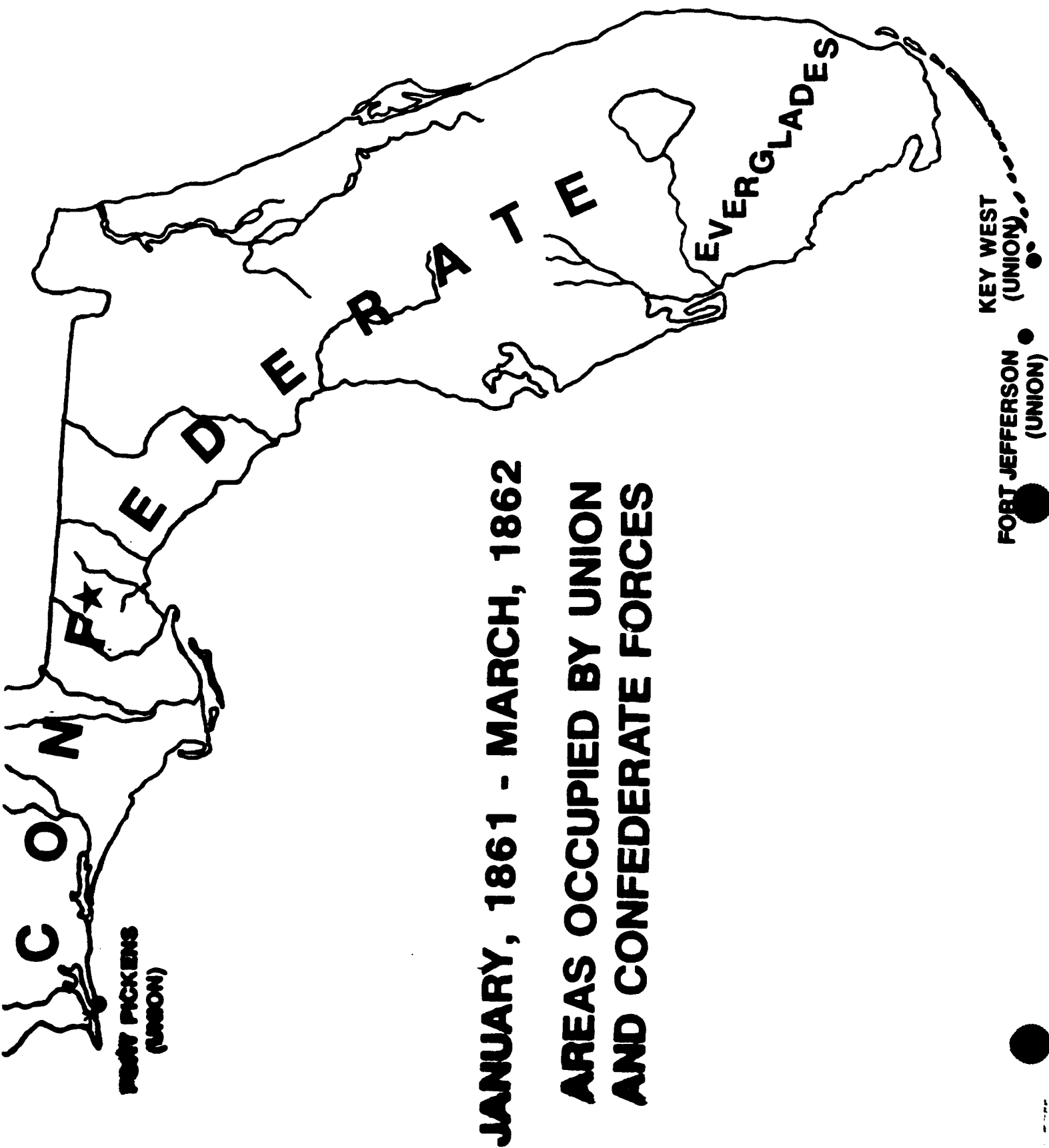
<sup>26</sup> McPherson, Battle Cry of Freedom, 1988, pg 447.

Union casualties and apparent lack of progress, especially in Virginia. The North, on its own and without foreign pressure, came very close to electing a Democratic president and opening peace negotiations with the South to end the war. In both cases, however, last minute Union military victories rallied support for Lincoln. In 1862, after initial successes, the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia was stopped at Antietam, and the Army of Tennessee was halted at Perryville. These developments enabled Lincoln to gain success in the off-year elections of 1862. These gains, in turn, allowed Lincoln to enlarge the scope and ennoble the purpose of the war by issuing the Emancipation Proclamation. In 1864, it was the capitulation of Atlanta and the destruction of Jubal Early's Confederate army in the Shenandoah Valley, which gave the Northern voter hope that final victory was in sight. Lincoln's re-election supplied the momentum to ward off the calls for a negotiated peace, and to stay the course to the war's final conclusion six months later on April 9, 1865, at Appomattox Courthouse, and re-Union.

### Chapter III

#### **THE EVOLUTION OF CONFEDERATE STRATEGY IN FLORIDA**

Confederate strategy in Florida can be roughly broken down



**JANUARY, 1861 - MARCH, 1862**

**AREAS OCCUPIED BY UNION  
AND CONFEDERATE FORCES**

into three periods, depending on circumstances in the state, as well as elsewhere in the Confederacy, to-wit: the beginning of the war through 1861; 1862 through 1864; and after March 1865 to war conclusion.

Initial Strategy: At the outset of the Civil War until early 1862, Confederate strategy towards Florida, as it was elsewhere in the Confederacy, was at its grandest and most expansive. Specifically, it was to hold and retain control over the entire state and its coast line against all Union encroachment, and, at some point, retake or at least neutralize the three forts: Pickens, in Pensacola Harbor; Taylor, at Key West; and Jefferson, on Tortugas, which were in Union control. Prior to Florida's secession from the Union on January 10, 1861, these three forts, which guarded critical sea lines of communications and harbors, were occupied by Union forces. On 15 November 1860, Lieutenant Thomas Craven, USN, with assistance from the U.S.S. *Mohawk*, occupied Fort Jefferson, and Lieutenant Fabius Stanly, USN, with the U.S.S. *Wyandotte*, occupied Fort Taylor. Both forts remained in Union hands throughout the war and were critical outposts from which the North would support its naval blockade, maintain local sea control, and advance Union maritime supremacy. Neither Fort Taylor nor Jefferson were threatened by the Confederates.

In early 1861, Florida's militia operated against the Federal Government. The Apalachicola Federal Arsenal at Chattahoochee was seized by Colonel Dunn and the Florida Militia on January 6, and Fort Marion (Old Spanish "Castle St. Marcus") at St. Augustine was

taken on January 7. First Lieutenant Adam Slemmer, USA, noted these actions. He evacuated Forts Barrancas and McRee, Barrancas Barracks, Redoubt and the Navy Yard in Pensacola. With assistance from the U.S.S. Wyandotte, Slemmer occupied Fort Pickens on the western end of Santa Rosa Island. This action secured control of the sea approaches to Pensacola Harbor and surrounding rivers for the remainder of the war. As with Forts Taylor and Jefferson, the Confederates never mounted a serious threat to Fort Pickens.

Thus, by the beginning of the Civil War on April 12th with the bombardment of Fort Sumter, in Charleston Harbor, quick action by several Union officers ensured three very critical military locations in Florida were occupied, manned, and held for the North.

The critical political and military importance of Fort Pickens did not go unnoticed by Florida and Confederate government authorities. By the end of January, there had been three demands for the surrender of the fort, as well as an exchange of gun fire on January 13, when a detachment of Florida militia reconnoitering outside the walls fired on a sergeant on guard duty, who returned fire. But, though Confederate officials wanted to have Fort Pickens, they felt that an assault on the fort at this time was ill conceived. They placed more importance on forming a government and getting it into operation. Florida's former U.S. Senators, Stephen R. Mallory and David L. Yulee, stated in a message to Florida Governor Madison S. Perry: that a consensus of Southern Senators agreed that "no assault on Fort Pickens should be made ... the fort



is not worth one drop of blood at this time." This delay, may have cost the initiative in Florida for the South. Union reinforcements and additional ships for defense of Fort Pickens arrived on February 9th. After this, the fort would be tough to take.

During the period from January to mid-March 1861, there was a "quasi" armistice based on an interim agreement between the Union defenders of Fort Pickens and Florida officials. During this armistice there were open communications between Fort Pickens and Pensacola. The fort was supplied with food from neighboring farmers. The construction of Confederate sand batteries in and around the fort were stopped. Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, arrived in early March. He assumed command on March 11 of Confederate forces in and near Pensacola, subsequently designated the "Army of Pensacola" (on October 22). He put the area on a military footing. All contact by private citizens with and supplies being furnished to Fort Pickens was prohibited. Erection of batteries on both sides of Pensacola Harbor were resumed under the guise of being for "defensive purposes."

In Key West and Tortugas, Captain John M. Brannon, USA, assumed command at Fort Taylor. He reported everything was quiet. There was firm policing of the area by Union naval vessels. Because of Union naval strength in this area, there was never any Confederate activity or plan to seize either Forts Taylor or Jefferson. As such, the primary focus of Confederate leaders throughout the war was on northern and central Florida, where the

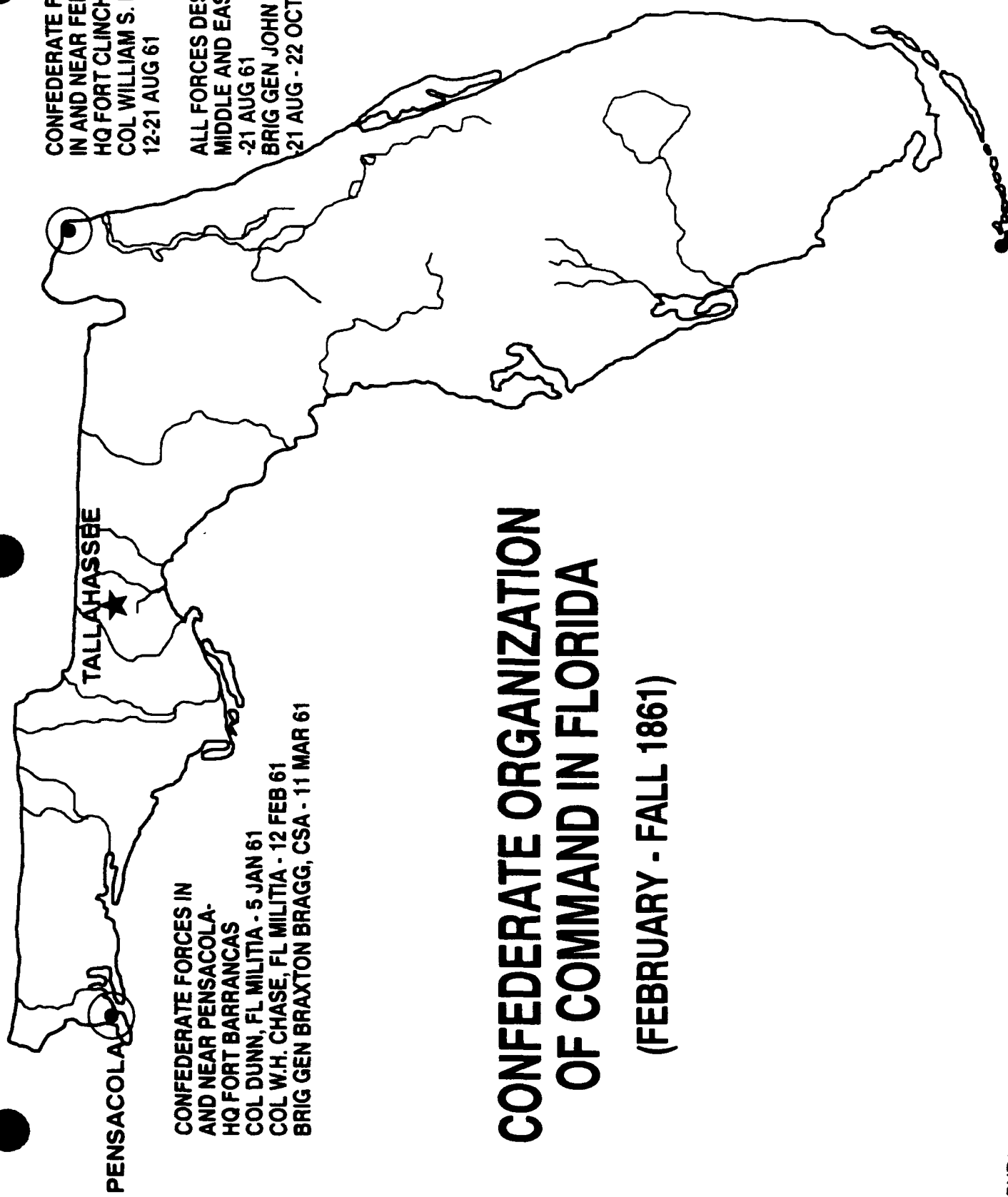
majority of the wealth, cattle, food crops, and slaves were located.

From January through April 1861, state authorities concentrated on organizing local militia, such as the Perry Artillery at Apalachicola and Island Guards at Key West. The state gathered supplies, munitions, and armaments, and prepared for a "short war." That was the prevalent opinion --- if there was going to be a war. Most thought that the North would allow the South to secede peacefully without any military confrontation. But if it did not, the forthcoming war would be short and decisive resulting in a Southern victory.

All this changed on April 12 with the bombardment and surrender of Fort Sumter, Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers, and the proclamation of the Union Naval blockade on April 19, which initially extended from South Carolina to Texas.

Interestingly enough, the Union blockade of Pensacola Harbor began on April 13. It was the first port closed by the Union. Secret orders from Union Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, carried by Lieutenant John L. Worden, USN, to Captain Henry A. Adams, U.S.S. *Sabine*, instructed him to reinforce Fort Pickens and, if action commenced, to blockade the port. General Bragg's, response to the blockade was that it was "an act of aggressive war ... and he considered it a virtual acknowledgment of Confederate national existence and independence."

In Key West, open Confederate sentiments were quickly suppressed with suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, the forced



CONFEDERATE FORCES  
IN AND NEAR FERNANDINA  
HQ FORT CLINCH  
COL WILLIAM S. DILWORTH  
12-21 AUG 61

ALL FORCES DESIGNATED  
MIDDLE AND EAST FLORIDA  
-21 AUG 61  
BRIG GEN JOHN B. GRAYSON  
-21 AUG - 22 OCT 61

TALLAHASSEE

PENSACOLA

CONFEDERATE FORCES IN  
AND NEAR PENSACOLA-  
HQ FORT BARRANCAS  
COL DUNN, FL MILITIA - 5 JAN 61  
COL W.H. CHASE, FL MILITIA - 12 FEB 61  
BRIG GEN BRAXTON BRAGG, CSA - 11 MAR 61

# CONFEDERATE ORGANIZATION OF COMMAND IN FLORIDA

(FEBRUARY - FALL 1861)

disbanding of the local militia (the "Island Guards"), and the closing of the "Key of the Gulf" newspaper because it uttered "treasonable and threatening language against the judiciary and other United States officers." On May 6 Lieutenant Commander Thomas A. Craven, USN, established the blockade at Key West. Thus, from the Confederate strategic and operational viewpoint, Key West was out of the war, except for blockade runners attempting to avoid capture by Union ships when slipping through the Straits of Florida, other keys and islands of South Florida, the Gulf of Mexico, or ports along the coast.

The Confederate command structure in Florida from January to the fall of 1861, was essentially Florida Militia forces centered around Pensacola and Fernandina. From March into October, there were designated commanders in charge of Confederate troops in and near Pensacola (General Bragg), with headquarters at Fort Barrancas and at Fernandina (Brigadier General John B. Grayson, CSA), with headquarters at Fort Clinch. No specific districts or departments were organized. This changed in October with the designation of the Department of Alabama and West Florida, under General Bragg, and the Department of Middle and East Florida, under the command of Brigadier General James Trapier, CSA. The dividing line between departments was the Choctawhatchee River. These departments remained until June 1862.

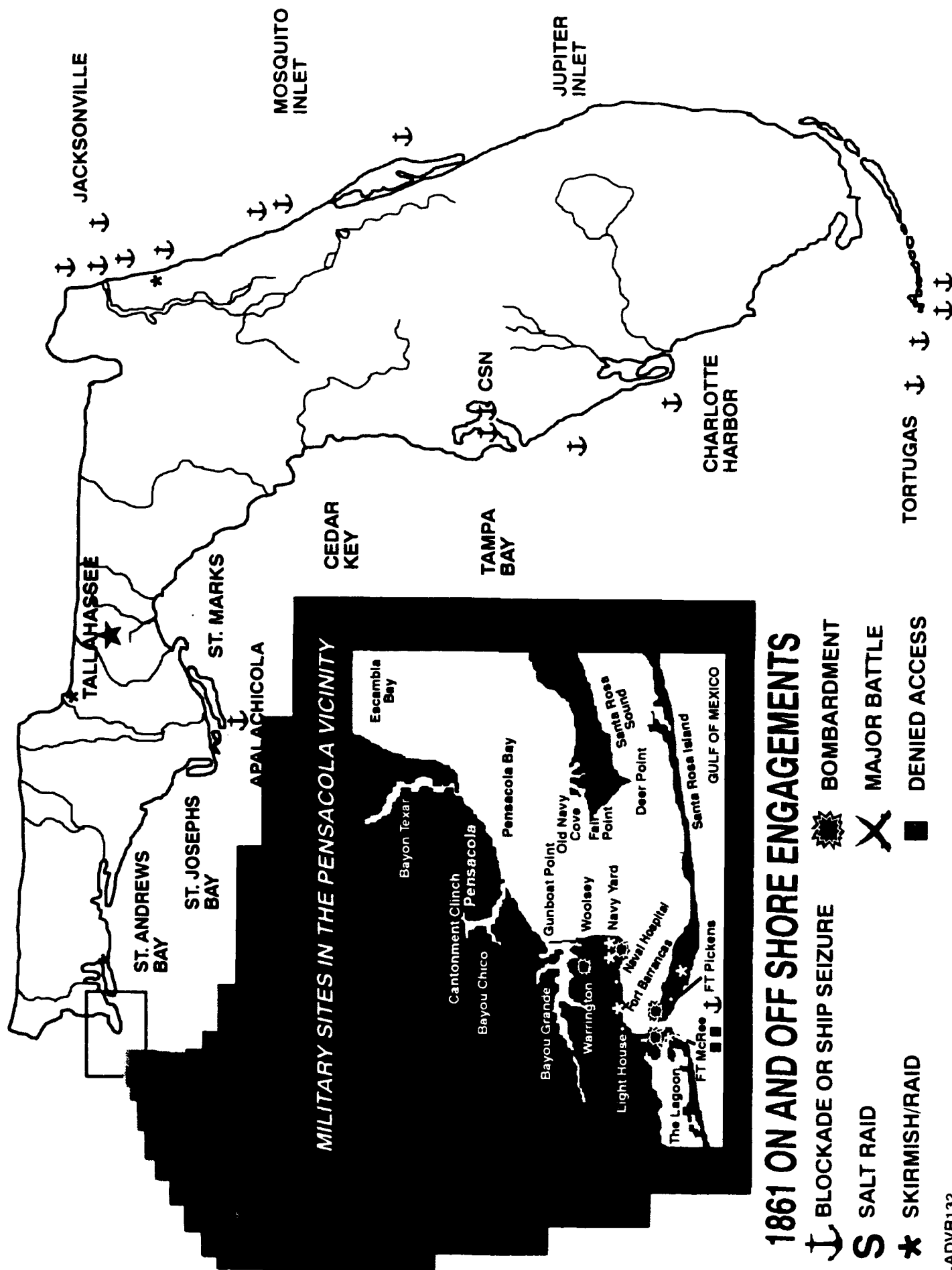
A national Confederate command structure for the southeastern states was not designated until October 1861. South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida were organized into one Department. But

this was for coastal defense only, and had no control over the interior of the states. Headquarters was at Charleston, South Carolina with Major General Robert E. Lee, CSA, designated the first commander on November 5.

The first ships in Florida waters denied access to a harbor by the Union blockade occurred on 8 May when Captain Henry A. Adams, USN, **U.S.S. Sabine**, uncertain as to the status of foreign ships and the blockade, denied entry to steamers **Judah** and **Le Barron**, sending them to Mobile, Alabama. The first Union blockade seizure was on 20 May when the **U.S.S. Crusader**, Lieutenant Commander Thomas A. Craven, USN, captured the **Neptune** near Fort Taylor, Key West.

From May through the end of 1861, Confederate strategy continued to call for construction of and improvement in fortifications at important strategic ports and areas in the northern areas of the state - St. Marks, Fort Clinch and Amelia Island, Forts Barrancas and McRee, St. Vincents Island for the defense of St. Josephs Bay and the West Pass to Apalachicola, St. Augustine, and Mayport to guard the mouth of the St. Johns River and access to Jacksonville. Also, during this period, the first of many requests from the Confederate War Department in Richmond for the organization and exportation of Florida troops from the state was received and complied with by Governor Madison S. Perry and, later, Governor John Milton, who was inaugurated on October 7, 1861.

It was during this time that the reality of the lack of munitions, supplies, and war-making materiel in both Florida and



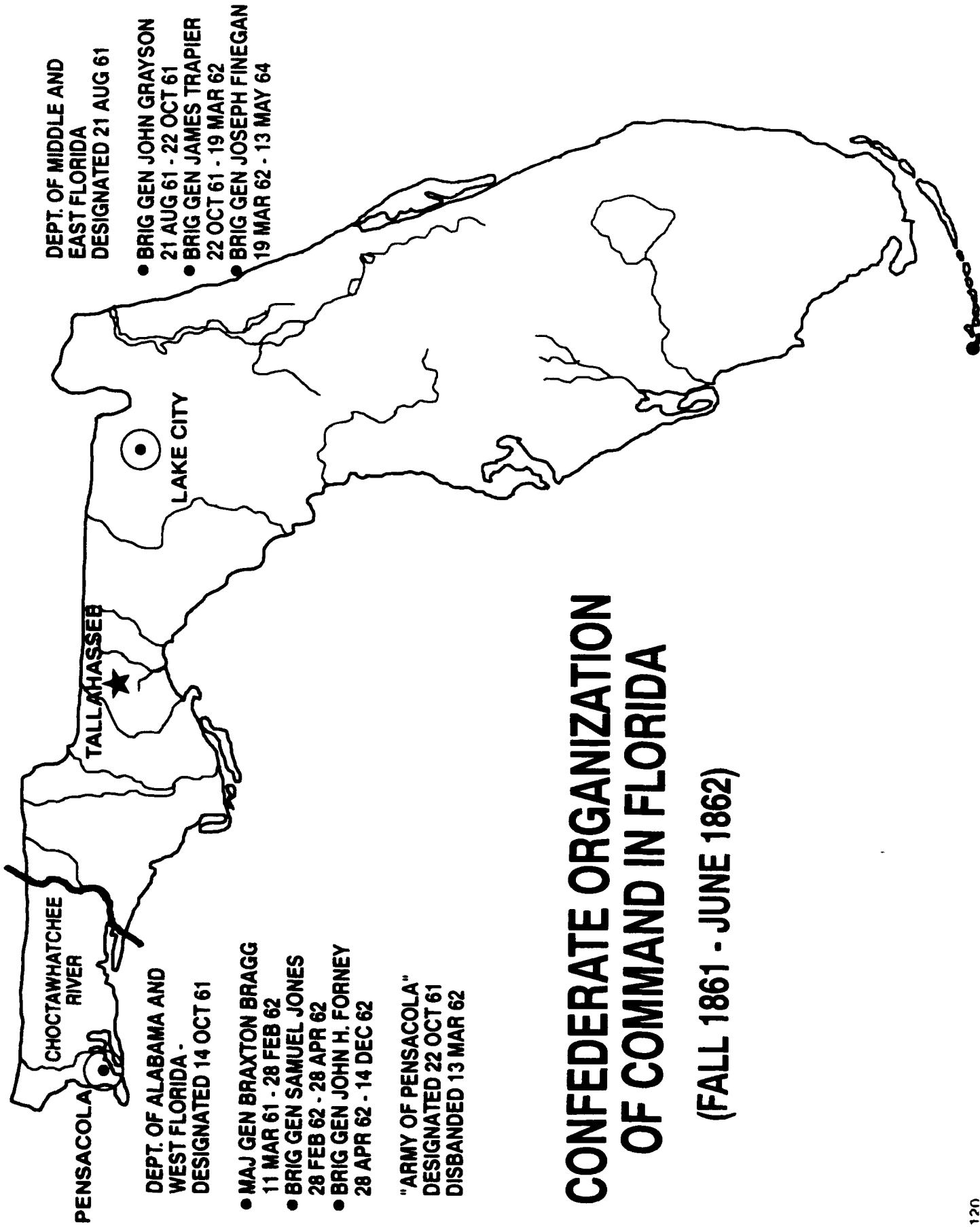
## 1861 ON AND OFF SHORE ENGAGEMENTS

- ⚓ BLOCKADE OR SHIP SEIZURE
- S SALT RAID
- ★ SKIRMISH/RAID
- ★ BOMBARDMENT
- X MAJOR BATTLE
- DENIED ACCESS

throughout the Confederacy began to come to the forefront. From everywhere in the state there were outcrys for powder, heavier cannons, primers, etc., with very little available.

On October 9, 1861, the first large engagement took place in Florida. The Confederates attacked at Santa Rosa Island, east of Fort Pickens. Brigadier General Richard H. Anderson, CSA, landed four miles from Fort Pickens, marched down the island, attacked and partially burned the camp of Union Colonel William Wilson, USA. But, under heavy fire from Union artillery, they withdrew from the island. From the accounts, this engagement was a raid to "annihilate Billy Wilson and his whole band of thieves and cut-throats" rather than an operation planned to attack and seize Fort Pickens. The number of Union reinforcements now at Fort Pickens and the mobile firepower of the Union fleet ready off-shore made for a formidable defense for any Confederate attempt to take Pickens. Thus, the raid was more of a harassment tactic. In fact, it was similar to the operations Union army-navy forces were beginning to conduct all along the Florida coast line.

During late November, General Robert E. Lee, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida (for coastal defenses only), inspected the batteries and posts at Fernandina, Fort Clinch, and Amelia Island. He urged General Trapier, CSA, to complete the batteries and armaments at Fernandina and make use of all means to defend the Cumberland Sound for "the enemy's fleet was now on this coast, and may visit [Fernandina] coast at any time."



# **CONFEDERATE ORGANIZATION OF COMMAND IN FLORIDA**

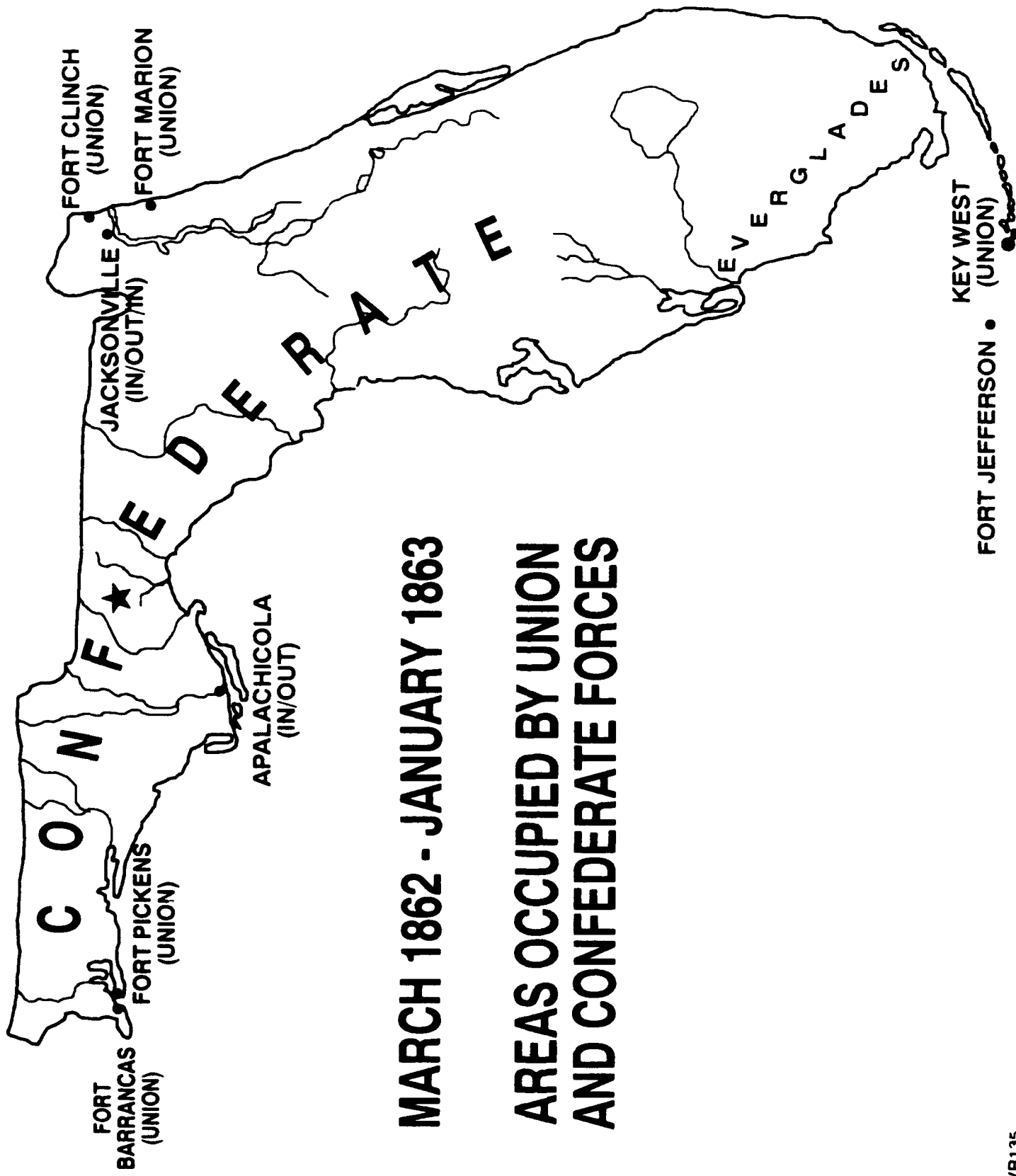
**(FALL 1861 - JUNE 1862)**



On the November 22-23, in response to the Confederate attack of October 9, combined Union guns from Fort Pickens and two blockading ships commenced a bombardment of Confederate defenses at Fort McRee, Navy Yard, and the town of Warrington just south of Pensacola. This was clearly a Union demonstration of the might of its combined land and naval firepower to control the entrance to Pensacola Harbor and the west end of Santa Rosa Island.

Second Phase Strategy: Early 1862 brought a rethinking of general Confederate strategy for the defense of the entire state and coastal areas. General Lee recognized the importance of Mosquito Inlet on the east coast of Florida, near New Smyrna to blockade running. He ordered protection for the inlet. This was one of the only exposed or shoreline points to be held in Florida. By February 19, 1862, he had decided not to try to hold outlying, isolated islands or posts, but to withdraw inland to fight a strategic defense. In view of this, he ordered General Trapier on February 22 to withdraw from Fernandina, Fort Clinch, and Amelia and Talbot Islands. At this same time, due to losses in Tennessee, the Confederate War Department ordered (now Major General) Bragg to withdraw all Confederate forces from Pensacola and Mobile, Alabama. General Lee was also directed to withdraw all Confederate forces "employed in the defense of the seaboard of Florida, ... and send them to Tennessee... [with] the only troops to be retained in Florida are such as may be necessary to defend the Apalachicola River..."

The exposure of the coast coupled with the loss of troops



**MARCH 1862 - JANUARY 1863**

**AREAS OCCUPIED BY UNION  
AND CONFEDERATE FORCES**

worried local and state political leaders across Florida. Governor Milton wrote Confederate Secretary of War, Judah P. Benjamin, a detailed letter on the lack of defenses for Florida and presented his views as to the most efficient and least expensive manner to defend the State. Accordingly, Benjamin responded with an excellent strategic view of the situation throughout the South. He noted: "with inferior forces fronting the enemy at almost every point on the frontier, as well as on the coast of South Carolina, Alabama, and Georgia, [he] was compelled to send every weapon he could secure to aid in actual conflict ... he must give preference to points actually attacked over those that were only exposed to attack." General Lee also wrote Governor Milton of the withdrawal from the islands emphasizing that:

"this was the only way, in [his] opinion to successfully resist the large force that can be brought against us by the enemy, and to deprive him of the benefit derived from his fleet and heavy floating batteries ... It will be necessary for the citizens of Florida to turn out to a man to defend their homes, and the sooner your excellency can impress upon them this fact, the easier will be its accomplishment. Troops cannot now be drawn from other States for this purpose. Every State is looking to the protection of her own borders and providing the regiments called for by the Secretary of War."

March 1862 saw a great deal of Union activity in Florida along the coast. A Union naval expedition of twenty ships from Wassaw Sound, Georgia, captured Fernandina, Fort Clinch, Cumberland, and Amelia Island. After their evacuation, the surrender of St. Augustine and Fort Marion and the occupation of Jacksonville took place. Forts Barrancas and McRee were also evacuated by Confederate forces in the wake of the Union naval threat and in

# CONFEDERATE COMMAND STRUCTURE FOR SOUTHEASTERN STATES

[OCTOBER 1861 - END OF THE WAR]

FOR COASTAL DEFENSE\*, THE DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH  
CAROLINA, GEORGIA, AND FLORIDA  
HQ - CHARLESTON, SC

MAJ GEN ROBERT E. LEE (5 NOV 61 - 4 MAR 62)  
MAJ GEN JOHN C. PEMBERTON\*\* (4 MAR 62 - 7 OCT 62)  
MAJ GEN P.G.T. BEAUREGARD (7 OCT 62 - 20 APR 64)  
MAJ GEN SAMUEL JONES (20 APR 64 - 28 SEP 64)  
MAJ GEN WILLIAM HARDEE (28 SEP 64 - END)

\*By 4 Nov 1862, authority was no longer restricted to coastal defense, but included the entire state, less that area assigned to military district NO. 2 - Maj Gen Braxton Bragg. In Florida this was all of west Florida, west of the Choctawatchee River.

\*\*Commanded South Carolina, Georgia, east Florida 4 Mar 62 - 7 Apr 62. Extended to include middle Florida on 7 Apr 62.

keeping with general Confederate strategy to withdraw from indefensible positions along the sea-coast and coastal islands.

March also saw a good deal of Confederate activity in Florida. The Army of Pensacola was disbanded and assigned to the armies of Mississippi and Tennessee. With this, Bragg departed to command the Army of Tennessee. He was relieved by Brigadier General Samuel Jones, CSA, as commander of the Department of Alabama and West Florida. General Lee was assigned with the conduct of military operations in the armies of the Confederacy. He was relieved by Major General John C. Pemberton, CSA, as commander of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida (still only for coastal defenses), but extended to include Middle Florida on April 7. In the continuation of in-land defense, all cannons and ordnance stores were removed from Apalachicola and relocated up the Apalachicola River at Ricco's Bluff. In the area of civil-military relations, due to the loss of guns at Fernandina and on the St. Johns River as the result of hasty Confederate evacuations, and "prejudices excited against General Trapier," Governor Milton requested and received an immediate change of local army commander. Colonel William S. Dilworth, CSA, was temporarily assigned to command the Department of Middle and East Florida. Shortly thereupon, Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, assumed command on April 18. Finegan was to remain in this position throughout most of the war.

On being ordered to command the Department of Middle and East Florida, Finegan was given instructions by Lee that clearly

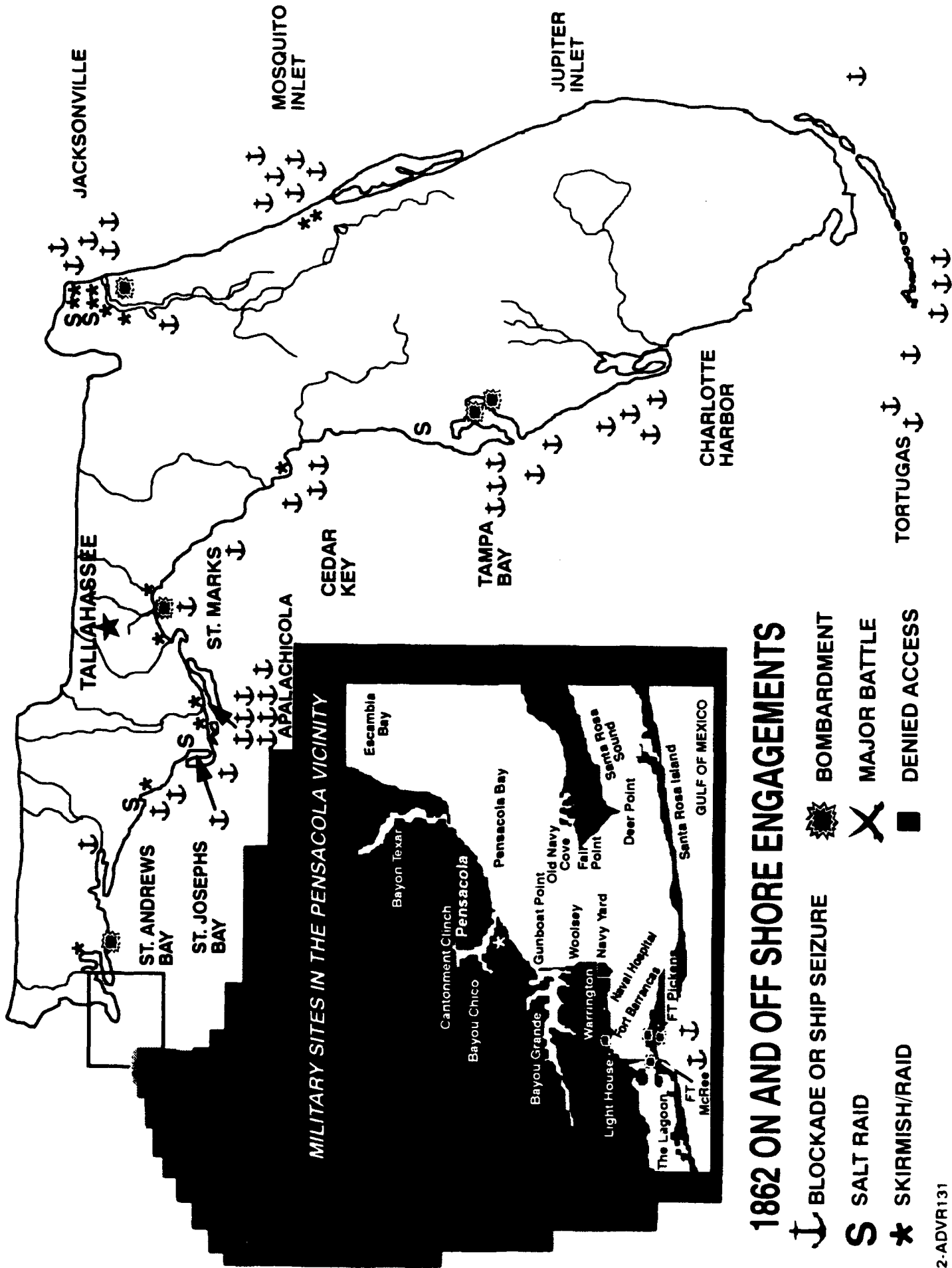
indicated the shift in Confederate strategy from that of 1861. He was told: "the defense of the interior of the State and the lines of interior communication should be the subject of [his] particular attention. The rivers Apalachicola and Saint Johns were of primary importance ... [and that] .. It [was] not presumed, from present appearances of from any object likely to be attained, that the enemy would occupy Florida in force." Then with these orders, Finegan was asked: "Having these objects in view ... would [he] be able to spare any troops from [his] command for service in other parts of the Confederacy?" On assuming command, his answer to Lee was no.

General Confederate strategy towards Florida, and most coastal Southern States for that matter, had changed to a strategic defense. This was intended to make the Union army come into the interior where they would be engaged and either defeated or forced to retreat to the coastal areas. Another part of the strategy mentioned and, to some degree implemented, used guerrilla warfare in Florida. Captain John W. Pearson, CSA, gave an excellent net assessment for the possibility of guerrilla warfare in Florida in early April. He stated: "with a reasonable guerrilla force we can keep them back. I am now a guerrilla in every sense of the word; we neither tell where we stay nor where we are going, nor when we shall return; [and] assemble the company at the sound of a cow's horn." However, he noted that the scope of his operations was fairly limited to the west bank of the St. Johns River.

With the destruction and evacuation of Confederate forces from

the Pensacola Navy Yard at Warrington, Forts Barrancas and McRee on May 9-10, and the reoccupation of these sites by Union troops from Fort Pickens, all the major coastal cities along the Florida coast had been abandoned in accordance with general Confederate defensive strategy. In line with this defensive strategy, obstructions were placed at several locations in the Apalachicola River and gun batteries were constructed on its banks to prevent or retard Union gun boat expeditions from proceeding up the river into the heartland of West Florida, Southwest Georgia, and Southeast Alabama, and the important agriculture area and industrial complex at Columbus, Georgia.

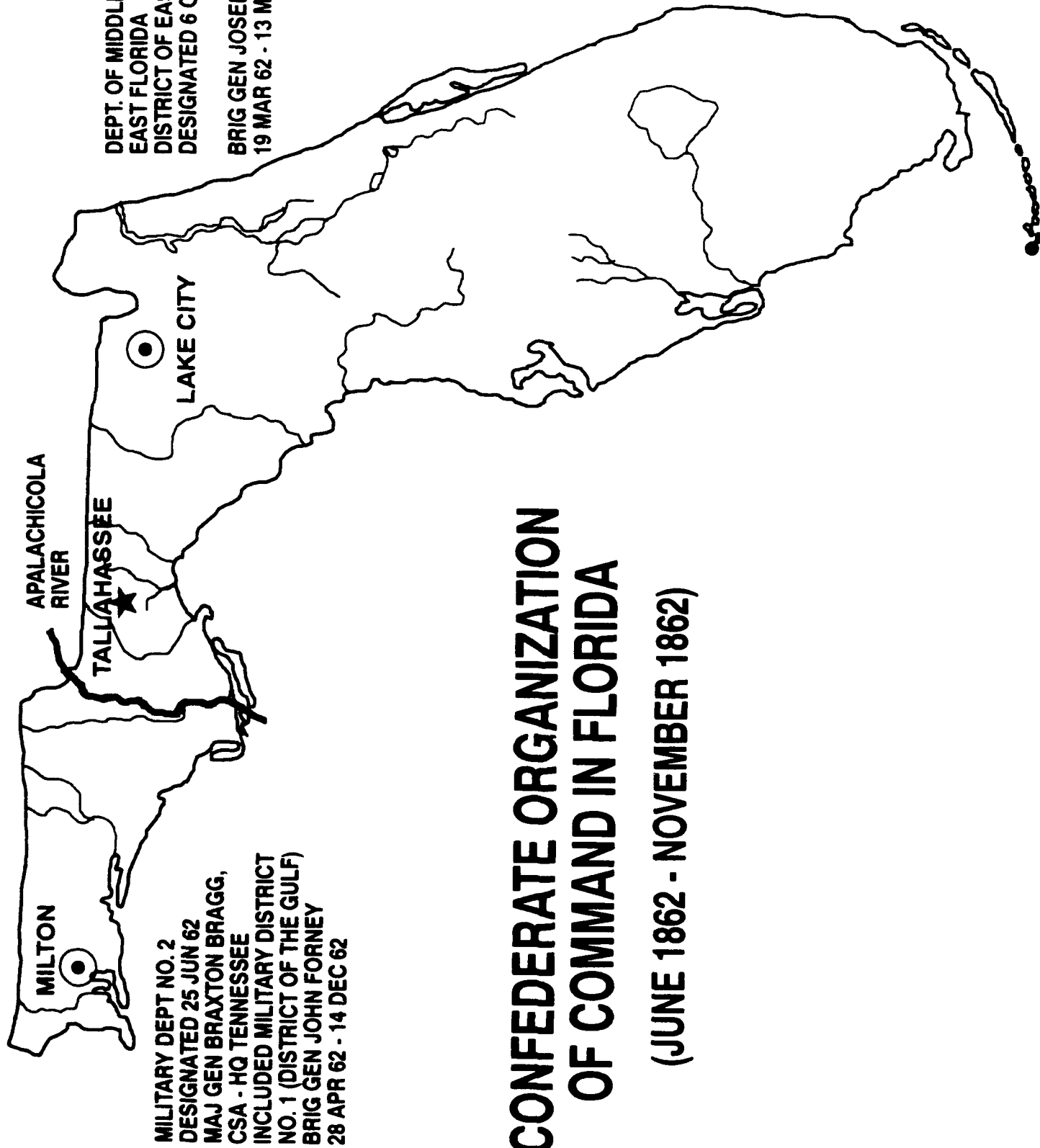
Due to the ever-tightening Union blockade, the Confederacy became more and more dependent on materials which could be supplied from within its own borders in order to continue the war. Due to droughts in much of the middle South, food from Florida became critical. The drought was not felt in south Georgia or north and middle Florida. Thus, by the Fall of 1862, these areas began to be the "bread basket" for the Confederate armies in Tennessee and Mississippi. It was during this time that Florida began to erect many salt distillation works on the inlets and bays along its coast for the processing of salt water to salt at the bays of St. Andrews, St. Josephs, and Tampa, and the St. Marks and St. Marys Rivers. The first Union attack on a salt works occurred October 4, 1862 at Depot Key with landing parties from the U.S.S. *Somerset*, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, USN, and the U.S.S. *Tahoma*, Commander John C. Howell, USN. Also, Florida's cattle industry in





the central and southern portions of the peninsula became a critical supplier of beef, leather, and other animal by-products. The cattle would be driven to the rail junctions at Cedar Key or Baldwin, Florida where they were loaded in rail cars and moved north via a line connecting the Tallahassee-Jacksonville with the Thomasville to Savannah line, at Lake City, Florida. This short line, along with an extension of the Tallahassee-Jacksonville line from Tallahassee to Quincy, Florida, were the only lines constructed in Florida during the war. The importance of the Baldwin and Lake City rail junctions quickly became known to Union military leaders, but no serious action or raids were taken against the lines until 1864 and 1865.

The local Florida Confederate command structure was designated in the Fall of 1861, with a Department of Alabama and West Florida and the Department of Middle and East Florida. This designation was changed in June 1862 to reflect a southwestern department (Military Department No. Two) commanded by Major General Bragg in Tennessee, which included the area in Florida west of the Apalachicola River (Military District No. One - the District of the Gulf), under the command of Brigadier General John H. Forney, CSA, who had relieved General Jones on April 28, 1862. The remainder of Florida continued as the Department of Middle and East Florida under the command of Brigadier General Finegan but with the separation line extended east to the Apalachicola River instead of the Choctawhatchee River. This command structure continued until October 1862, when the Department of Middle and East Florida was



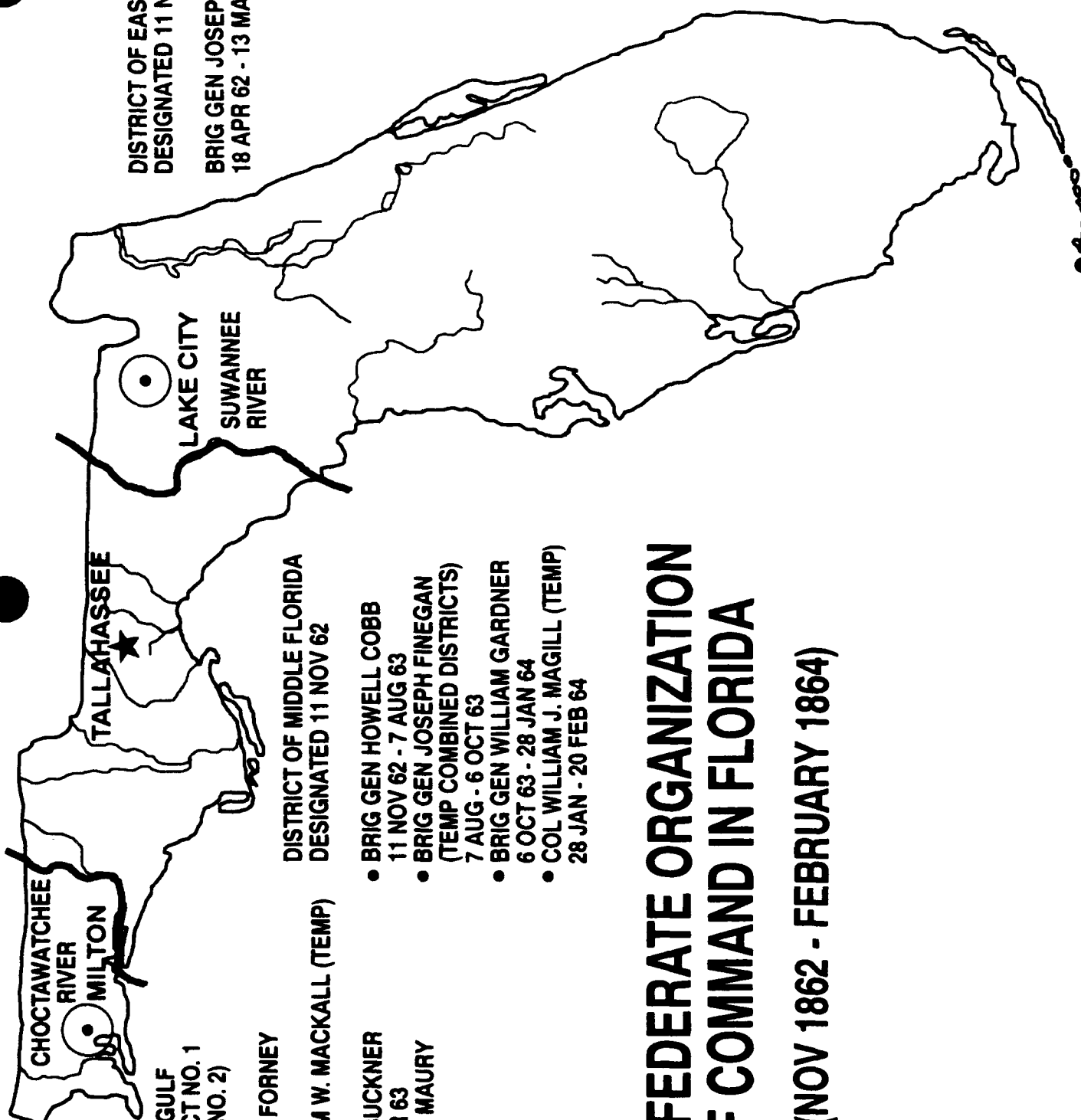
DEPT. OF MIDDLE AND  
EAST FLORIDA  
DISTRICT OF EAST FLA  
DESIGNATED 6 OCT 62

BRIG GEN JOSEPH FINEGAN  
19 MAR 62 - 13 MAY 64

MILITARY DEPT NO. 2  
DESIGNATED 25 JUN 62  
MAJ GEN BRAXTON BRAGG,  
CSA - HQ TENNESSEE  
INCLUDED MILITARY DISTRICT  
NO. 1 (DISTRICT OF THE GULF)  
BRIG GEN JOHN FORNEY  
28 APR 62 - 14 DEC 62

# CONFEDERATE ORGANIZATION OF COMMAND IN FLORIDA

(JUNE 1862 - NOVEMBER 1862)



DISTRICT OF THE GULF  
(MILITARY DISTRICT NO. 1  
WITHIN MIL DEPT NO. 2)

- MAJ GEN JOHN H. FORNEY  
2 JUL - 14 DEC 62
- BRIG GEN WILLIAM W. MACKALL (TEMP)  
14-23 DEC 62
- MAJ GEN SIMON BUCKNER  
23 DEC 62 - 27 APR 63
- MAJ GEN DABNEY MAURY  
27 APR 63 - END

DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA  
DESIGNATED 11 NOV 62

- BRIG GEN HOWELL COBB  
11 NOV 62 - 7 AUG 63
- BRIG GEN JOSEPH FINEGAN  
(TEMP COMBINED DISTRICTS)  
7 AUG - 6 OCT 63
- BRIG GEN WILLIAM GARDNER  
6 OCT 63 - 28 JAN 64
- COL WILLIAM J. MAGILL (TEMP)  
28 JAN - 20 FEB 64

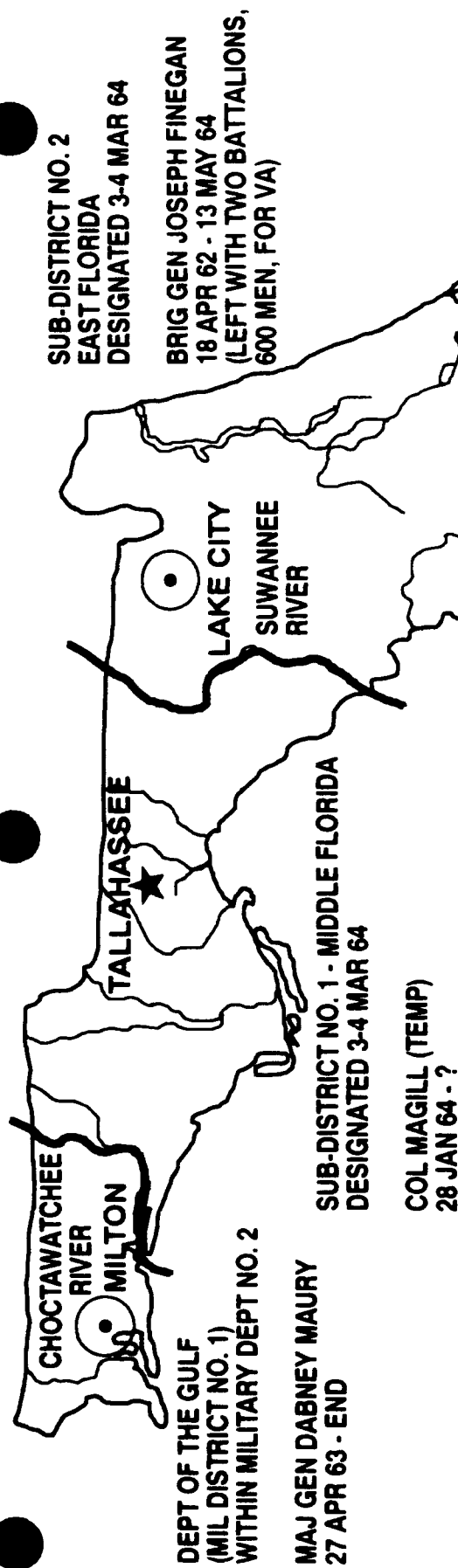
DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA  
DESIGNATED 11 NOV 62  
BRIG GEN JOSEPH FINEGAN  
18 APR 62 - 13 MAY 64

# CONFEDERATE ORGANIZATION OF COMMAND IN FLORIDA

(NOV 1862 - FEBRUARY 1864)

divided at the Suwannee River into the District of East Florida under General Finegan, and the District of Middle Florida, under the command of Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA. The District of Middle Florida was re-extended on the west from the Apalachicola River back to the Choctawhatchee River. The designation changed to districts rather than departments in November 1862 as the national Confederate command structure for the Southeast states (the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida) had its authority extended beyond the defense of the coast line, to include the entire states, less that area in west Florida (District of the Gulf). This command structure remained constant until after the battle of Olustee on February 23, 1864, when the District of Florida was designated, and the two Districts of East and Middle Florida were designated as sub-districts. Major General J. Patton Anderson, CSA, a Floridian, assumed command of the District of Florida. Florida remained partitioned in this manner until the end of the war. Most of the state resided in the District of Florida within the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The portion of Florida west of the Apalachicola River was part of the District of the Gulf (Military District No. One) within Military Department No. Two, headquartered in Tennessee.

As mentioned, the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida was changed in November 1862 to include authority over the entire state of Florida, less that area in West Florida in the District of the Gulf (Military District No. 1). During this time, there were several changes of command. Major General P.G.T.



# **CONFEDERATE ORGANIZATION OF COMMAND IN FLORIDA (FEBRUARY 1864 - END OF WAR)**

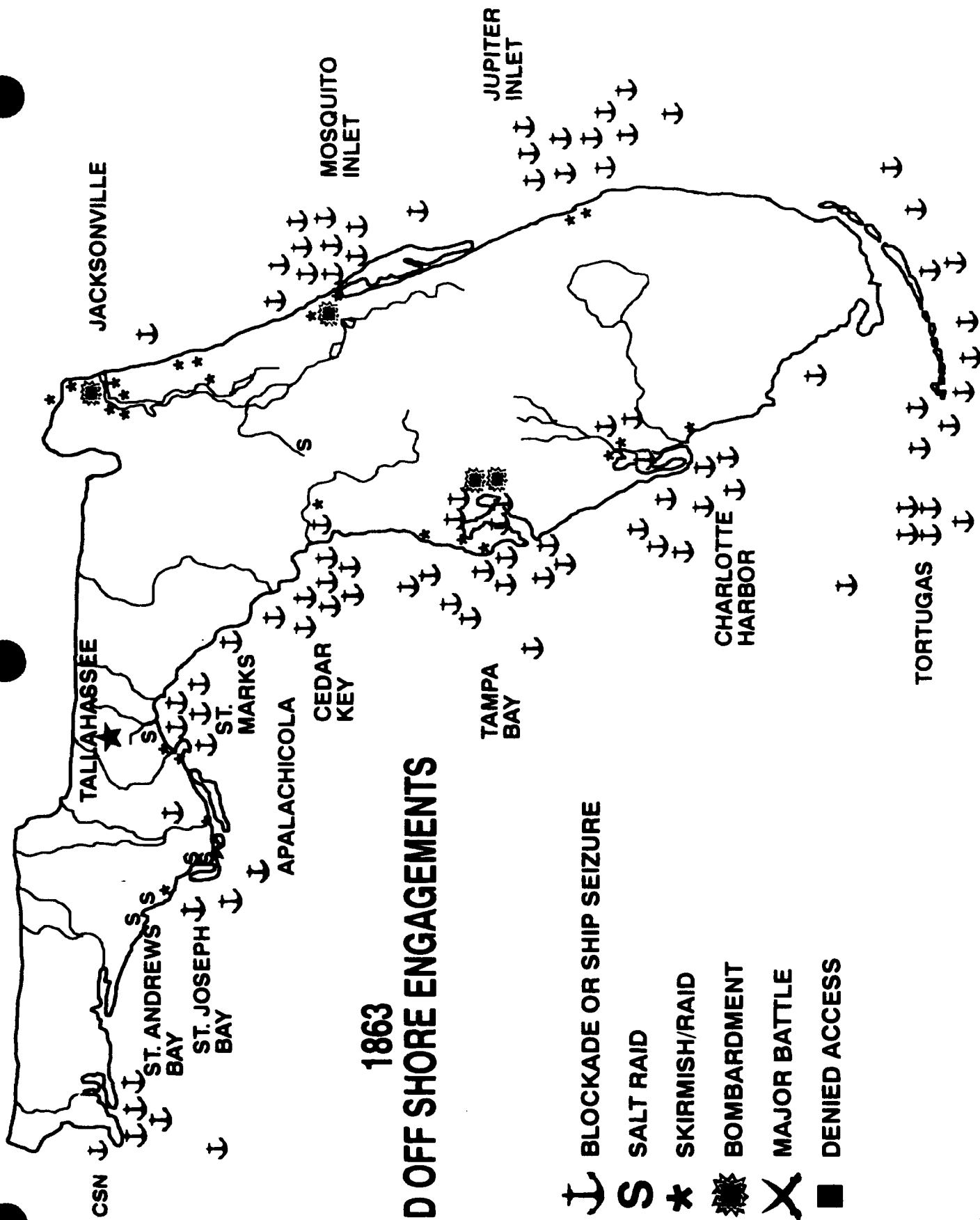
DISTRICT OF FLORIDA - DESIGNATED 23 FEB 64  
WITHIN THE DEPT OF SC, GA, AND FLORIDA  
INCLUDED SUB-DISTRICTS NO. 1 & 2

BRIG GEN J. PATTON ANDERSON - 23 FEB-27 JUL 64  
BRIG GEN JOHN K. JACKSON - 28 JUL-29 SEPT 64  
BRIG GEN WILLIAM MILLER - 29 SEPT-31 DEC 64  
MAJ GEN SAMUEL JONES - 31 DEC 64 - END

Beauregard, CSA, relieved General Pemberton, CSA, on October 7, 1862. Beauregard was relieved by Major General Samuel Jones, CSA on April 20, 1864. Major General William Hardee, CSA, relieved Jones on September 28, 1864. Hardee remained in command until the end of the war. It should be noted that after General Samuel Jones left command of the Department, he assumed command of the District of Florida in December 1864. Jones was the commanding Confederate General in the District of Florida at the end of the war.

Confederate strategy from 1862 to 1865 concentrated on strategic defense. No major actions were initiated by Confederate forces in Florida, other than harassment raids on Union outposts. Union forces often marched into the interior. Confederate troops were then shifted from different areas in the districts and South Georgia and concentrated to meet the threat. The advancing Union expedition was usually met and defeated or at least required to withdraw to its coastal ports. Such actions took place around Pensacola, Jacksonville, and Apalachicola. In Florida the best example of the success of this strategy was the defeat of the Union expedition under the command of Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, at the Battle of Olustee (Ocean Pond) on February 20, 1864. This was also the largest engagement of the war in Florida.

By early February 1864, the importance of the junction of the two railroads from Jacksonville and Fernandina at Baldwin, for the transportation of cattle and food stuffs out of Florida to the Confederate armies in Tennessee and North Georgia, was fully appreciated by Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding



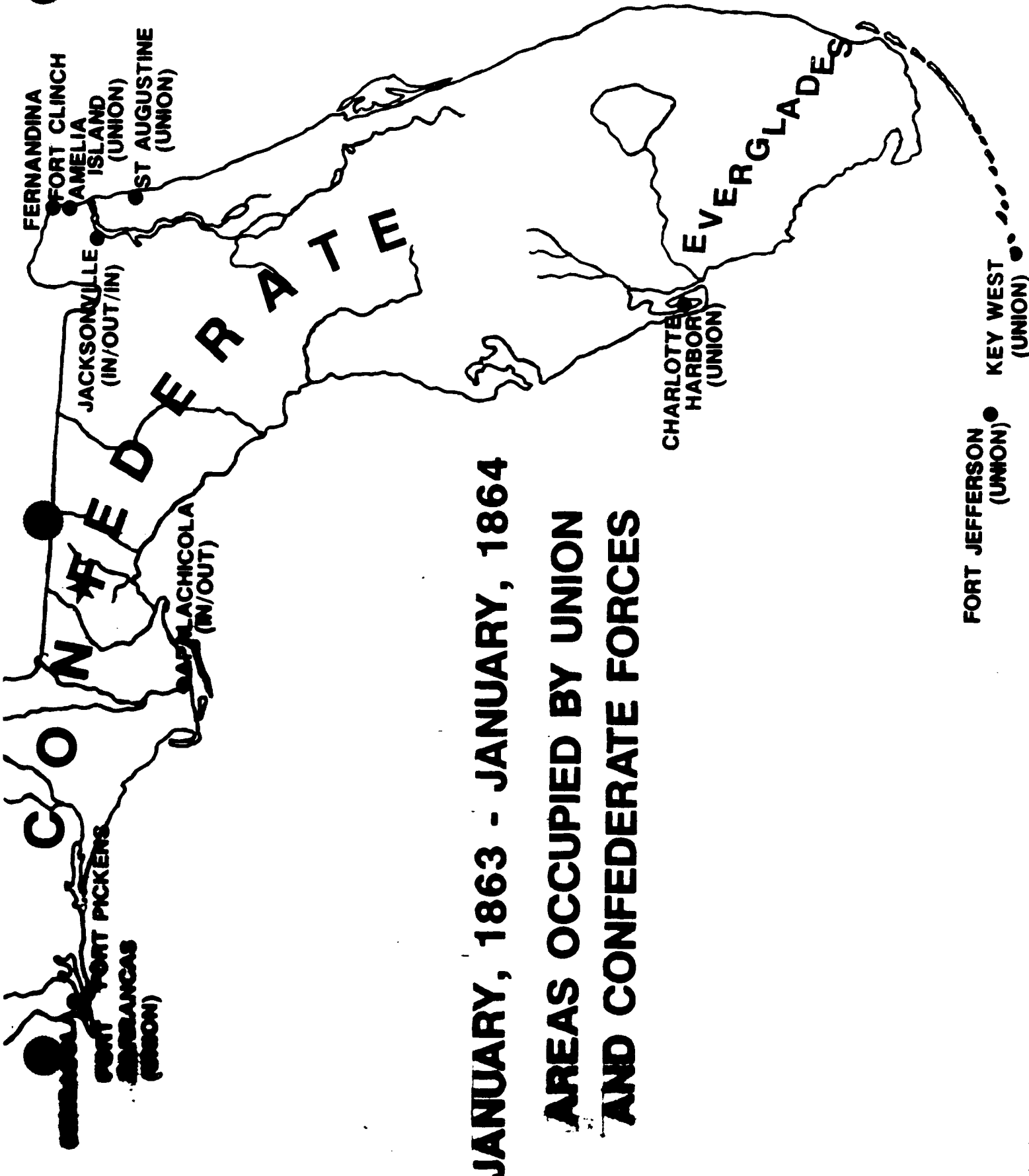
# 1863 ON AND OFF SHORE ENGAGEMENTS

- ⚓ BLOCKADE OR SHIP SEIZURE
- S SALT RAID
- \* SKIRMISH/RAID
- ★ BOMBARDMENT
- X MAJOR BATTLE
- DENIED ACCESS

the Department of the South, at Hilton Head, South Carolina. He directed General Seymour, USA, with the support of naval gunboats from Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren's, (USN) South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, to land at Jacksonville, push inland to Baldwin, and secure and destroy the rail junction. This was accomplished. However, General Seymour, contrary to orders from General Gillmore, moved towards the Suwannee River, 100 miles from Jacksonville, and his base of supply, to destroy the railroad across that river. During this time, Confederate General Finegan, commanding the District of East Florida, while maintaining a strategic defensive, was able to augment his forces with troops from the adjoining District of Middle Florida and from South Georgia to sufficient strength to take on the Union expedition. This occurred at Olustee (Ocean Pond) near Lake City on February 20, 1864. General Seymour attacked entrenched Confederates. The result was a severe defeat for the Union expedition, and forced a retreat from Baldwin, Sanderson, and all posts west of the St. Johns River, back to the safety of Jacksonville by Union troops. Union losses were heavy, 1,800 killed and missing, whereas Confederate losses were moderate, 93 killed and 841 wounded.

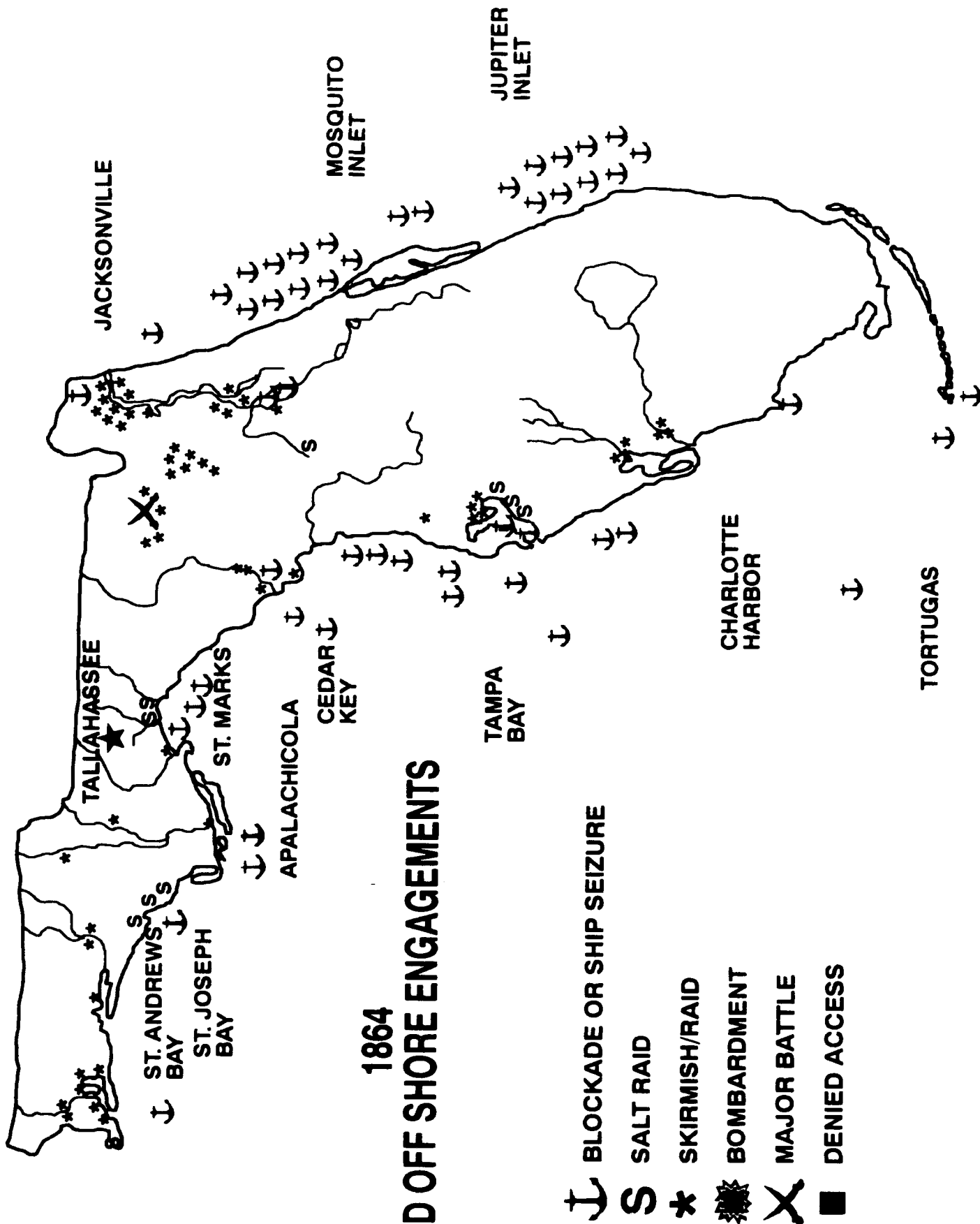
This same scenario was replayed with different players, at a different location. A smaller Union expeditionary force was engaged by entrenched Confederates on March 6, 1865, at the Battle of Natural Bridge, south of Tallahassee. The results were the same, a defeat for an over-extended Union expedition and a forced retreat. There were heavy Union losses in comparison to





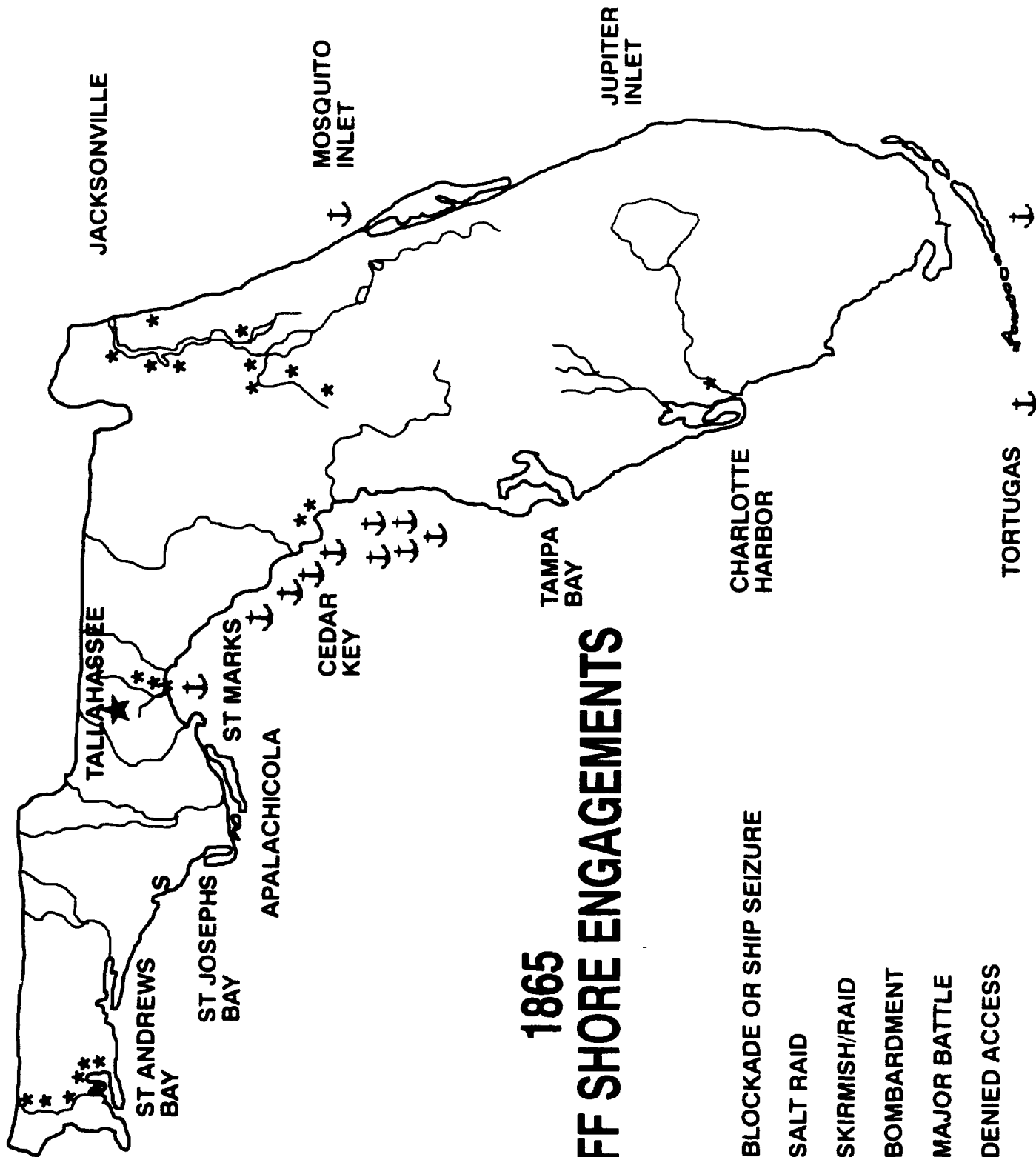
**JANUARY, 1863 - JANUARY, 1864**

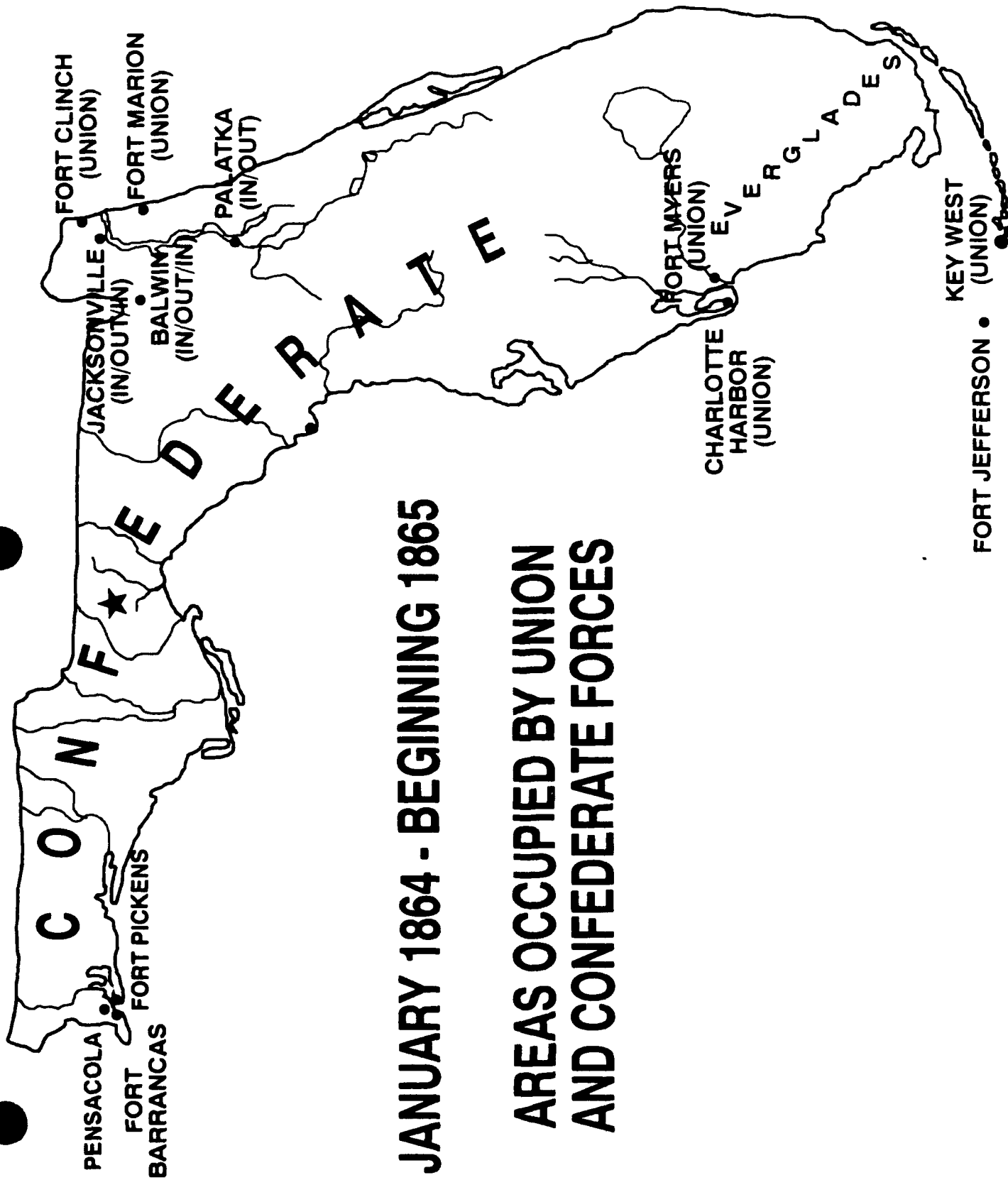
**AREAS OCCUPIED BY UNION  
AND CONFEDERATE FORCES**



Confederate casualties. By this point the victory in Florida was of little consequence, for the South as well as Florida was exhausted. The war was lost and would be over in less than a month and a half. However, the ability of the strategic defense in a war of attrition had been clearly demonstrated.

Florida also had significant instances of counter-revolution by the end of 1863. This was an additional drain on Confederate and local military planners and leaders. Disruptive deserters from the Confederate army, outlaws, and draft dodgers organized themselves into bands and para-military groups in Henry County, Alabama and crossed into western Florida. Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of Pensacola and West Florida, reported in February 1864, approximately a battalion of Confederate deserters in the vicinity of Pensacola. Governor Milton reported a small group near Chattahoochee. But, the most active was the band referred to as the "Crokers" in Taylor and Lafayette Counties under the leadership of William W. Strickland. By March 1864, the affects of counter-revolution were so threatening that Brigadier General William Gardner, CSA, commanding the sub-District of Middle Florida, ordered an expedition into the area to make arrests, remove the families of the deserters, and destroy the gangs. The resulting expedition was so cruel in the execution of its mission that there was an outcry from many local Florida citizens, who remained loyal to the Confederacy, to Governor Milton, who on June 20 asked for a full investigation into the matter. In his request, Milton stated:





# **JANUARY 1864 - BEGINNING 1865** **AREAS OCCUPIED BY UNION** **AND CONFEDERATE FORCES**

"the course pursued had increased the number of deserters and excited among them a vindictive purpose to avenge the wrongs inflicted, and to liberate the women and children and aged men, who had been deprived of their liberty and property upon a suspicion of disloyalty. The treatment of these unfortunate people .... seems to have been extremely cruel and an abuse of military authority... The effect has been to make an increased force necessary to protect the lives and property of loyal citizens from retaliation by the deserters...."

Milton further inquired into the payment of reparations by the national Confederate government for the illegal destruction of property.

There was also the slave issue. The state government was perplexed with what to do to keep the slaves under control on the plantations. The slaves worked to raise crops to feed the Confederate armies and the people in Florida. At the same time, the local government had to keep the slaves from escaping and joining the Union army or just running away. Although Florida had a very large slave population in comparison to its white population (almost equal numbers of slaves to whites), there were no reported slave uprisings or major difficulties, other than the few slaves that ran away or were liberated as "contraband" by Union forces on raids into the interior. But regardless of the fact there was no general slave rebellion, local government and military authorities had to delegate needed military personnel and resources to move slaves from areas which might come under Union occupation or influence, as well as capture runaway slaves and perform general police duties to keep the slaves under control.

A side issue, but one of importance to the strategic defense strategy in the Civil War in Florida, was the very effective use of

mine warfare that used torpedoes (floating mines) by the Confederates in the St. Johns, Escambia, Blackwater and St. Marks Rivers. At the height of this warfare in April 1864, three Union ships, the **Maple Leaf** (April 1), **General Hunter** (April 16), and **Harriet A. Weed** (May 9), were sunk in the St. Johns River in less than six weeks by mines. Furthermore, there was a significant fear among Union naval and army commanders to mine warfare. However, due to limited supplies, mines were not widely available for a greater use throughout all the rivers and inlets in Florida.

Final Strategy: By 1865, Confederate commanders in Florida continued with the defensive strategy. There was growing realization that the war was lost and a negotiated peace would not be forthcoming. The strategy after March 1865 began to disintegrate. There were no raids, engagements, or actions. The Confederate awaited the results from campaigns north of Florida --- and hoped for the best. Nothing better ever came, the Confederacy was defeated.

#### Chapter IV

#### THE EVOLUTION OF UNION MILITARY POLICY AND STRATEGY IN FLORIDA

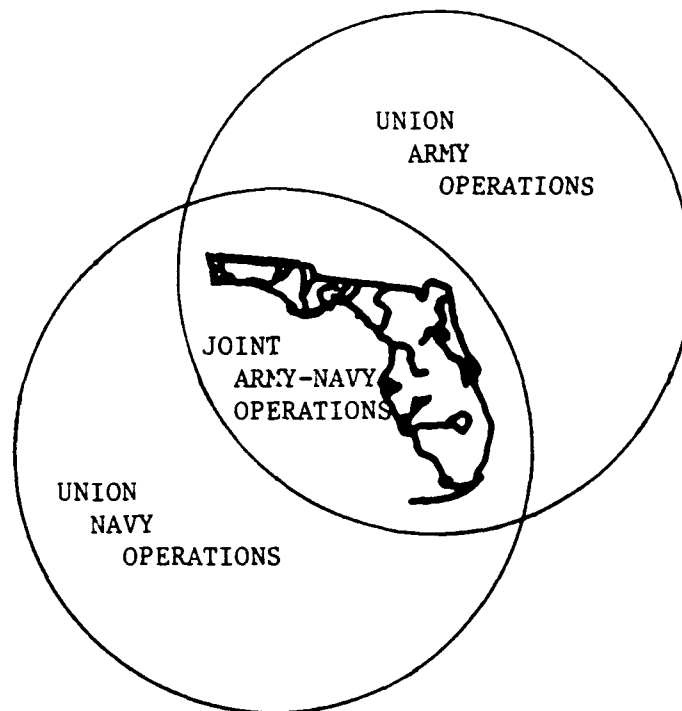
Union policy in Florida was much the same as the policy in the other states of the Confederacy. Simply stated, the Union policy was to defeat the Confederacy in Florida so that the state could be restored to the Union. Because the North had an army and a navy at the start of war, its military strategy in Florida should be

examined from these two perspectives, as well as resulting joint army-navy operations. From the beginning and throughout the Civil War in Florida, Union naval strategy was: (1) to capture and retain critical positions around the state to safe-guard sea lines of communication; (2) to establish a blockade and secure or maintain strategic land ports to serve as a coal/supply depots for the Union fleet; (3) to engage in coastline and river raids to disrupt the economy, especially the destruction of salt works and cotton depots; and (4) to maintain offshore firepower for forts and posts under Union control. Union army strategy was to capture or hold strategically located forts and other installations around the state from which the army could initiate raids and expeditions into the state's interior. After 1863, the army transitioned to an offensive strategy and army operations included destruction of the railroad lines in East Florida to stop the flow of cattle and other foodstuffs from the state supplying the western Confederate armies. Finally, Union army and navy strategy coalesced in offensive operations conducted under joint auspices. These combined operations exploited and defeated Confederate strategic defensive strategy through making surprise raids along the extensive Florida coastline.

A good visual representation to help one understand the application of these three distinct but interwoven Union military strategies for operations in Florida, are two over-lapping concentric circles. One circle representing Union naval operations in Florida, the other, Union army operations. The overlap



represents the many types of joint army-navy operations conducted in the state during the Civil War.



Union Naval Strategy: Throughout the Civil War, U.S. Navy strategy toward Florida remained constant and effective. The first priority was to retain or capture critical positions around the state from which the Union navy could protect sea lines of communication and advance maritime supremacy. The "lion's share" of this strategy was actually accomplished before the beginning of hostilities. On November 15, 1860, Lieutenant Thomas Craven, USN, commanding U.S. Naval Forces at Key West, with support from his

ship the **U.S.S. Mohawk**, occupied Fort Jefferson at Tortugas, and Lieutenant Fabius Stanly, USN, in the **U.S.S. Wyandotte**, occupied Fort Taylor at Key West. During January 9-10, 1861, Lieutenant Adam J. Slemmer, USA, with assistance from the **U.S.S. Wyandotte** and **U.S.S. Supply**, evacuated Forts Barrancas and McRee, and Barrancas Barracks at Pensacola, occupied Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island. He thereby exerted control over sea approaches to Pensacola Harbor and the surrounding rivers, and eliminated Pensacola as a blockade running port for the Confederacy.

These three forts, Jefferson, Taylor, and Pickens, remained in Union control throughout the war. Due to their strategic locations, they allowed the Union navy to establish a strong blockade in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico and control the Straits of Florida. This, in turn, permitted the Union to proceed with the other elements of its strategy.

The next element of the Union naval strategy was to establish the blockade and secure a strategic land port along the southern Atlantic coast where the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron could be supplied with coal, munitions, and food.

Elements of the blockade were put into operation even before the war began. Union ships loaded with troops, supplies, and war materiel, were ordered South to Key West to unload, and then to Pensacola to await further instructions. On April 7, Lieutenant John L. Worden, USN, departed Washington, D.C. He arrived April 12 in Pensacola, with secret orders for Captain Henry A. Adams, **U.S.S. Sabine**, senior naval officer present in the Pensacola area, to

reinforce Fort Pickens and establish the blockade if hostilities broke out. The day he arrived, April 12th, the Civil War began with the shelling of Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina. Union troops under the command of Captain Israel Vogdes, USA, disembarked from ships in Pensacola Harbor and reinforced Fort Pickens. On April 13, Captain Henry A. Adams, U.S.S. **Sabine**, with the U.S.S. **Brooklyn**, U.S.S. **St. Louis**, and U.S.S. **Wyandotte**, blockaded Pensacola Harbor. This was the first Atlantic port to be closed. President Abraham Lincoln, on April 19, by proclamation declared the blockade of all Southern ports from South Carolina to Texas.

On May 8, two steamers, **Judah** and **Le Barron**, were stopped and denied entrance to Pensacola, by Captain Henry A. Adams, U.S.S. **Sabine**, who was uncertain as to the full status of foreign ships and the Union blockade. By mid-May there were no doubts. On May 20, the **Neptune** was the first blockade runner seized in Florida territorial waters. It was captured by the U.S.S. **Crusader**, Lieutenant Thomas A. Craven, near Fort Taylor, Key West. The last blockade runner captured was the British bark **George Douthwaite**, by the U.S.S. **Isonomia**, Lieutenant L. D. D. Voorhees, off the Warrior River, with a cargo of sugar, rum, wool, ginger, and mahogany, on May 8, 1865.

The capture of Confederate and foreign ships (predominately British with a few French and Spanish) that attempted to run the Union blockade around Florida continued to increase throughout the war. The total number of ships captured in Florida's waters during

the Civil War was approximately two hundred-twelve, with the largest number of ninety in 1863, fifty-three in 1864, and forty in 1862. The blockade was the major element of Union naval strategy in Florida and the most effective. It achieved its mission. Florida's economy and its ability to export cotton and gain needed war materiel from overseas was severely crippled and almost shut down by late 1864. Only a hand-full of ships were able to run the blockade at any given time, but they could not bring in sufficient supplies to offset the ever deepening military and economic disaster.

The blockade was somewhat selectively imposed early in the war. This was because the overall navy strategy for fighting the war did not materialize until early May, when General Winfield Scott, USA, proposed the Anaconda Plan. The plan proposed to strangle the South's economy and war-making capabilities on all sides, through control of the ocean and inland waterways by closing all ports with a strong Union blockade. This would cut-off Southern trade from the industrial nations of Europe, force the South to rely on its own resources, which were few, and thus "be squeezed and strangled to death" like a snake kills its prey. The strategy called for the Union navy to: (a) strengthen the blockade; (b) split the Confederacy along the line of the Mississippi River, by a proposed "powerful movement down the Mississippi to the ocean, with a cordon of posts at proper points ... the object being to clear out and keep open this great line of communication in connection with the strict blockade of the

seaboard;" and (c) support land operations by amphibious assault, gunfire, and transport. It was mid-1863 before the plan was fully implemented, because many new ships were needed to sustain a tight blockade, but the foundations of Naval policy to fight the war were laid. During the war the Union navy went from about 42 ships to over 470 ships. In contrast, the Confederate navy started the war with a handful of ships and grew to about 130 ships during the war.

With the establishment of the blockade came the necessity to secure a strategic land port on Florida's Atlantic coast to serve as a coal and supply depot for the Union blockade fleet. Key West was too far for all practical purposes to be the coal depot for the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron. Another more strategic location was needed. By July 5 Captain Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, Chairman of the U.S. Blockade Strategy Board directed the depot to Fernandina (on the north-east Atlantic coast of Florida near the mouth of the St. Marys River). Fernandina was captured March 3-4, 1862, without a fight, by a joint army-navy amphibious expedition of twenty ships from Wassaw Sound, Georgia, southeast of Savannah, commanded by Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, and Brigadier General Horatio G. Wright, USA. The expedition was amongst the first examples of Union sea-land mobility and capabilities. Fernandina and the nearest Confederate garrison, Fort Clinch, were being evacuated when the Union fleet appeared off the coast. The evacuation had been ordered by Major General Robert E. Lee, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida (for coastal defense only). Lee was frustrated by

Confederate inability to cope with the guns of the Union fleet. He changed Confederate strategy to that of an interior (inland) strategic defense. To execute his strategy, he ordered the withdrawal from the coastal towns and forts or exposed islands due to the strength of the Union Navy, stating: "this was the only way to successfully to resist the large force that can be brought against us by the enemy, and to deprive him of the benefit derived from his fleet and heavy floating batteries." With the seizure of the coastal town of Fernandina, Amelia Island, and Fort Clinch, the Union navy had its supply and coal depot from which to fully implement the blockade.

Concurrent with beginning the blockade and transporting troops to Pensacola, the Union navy was landing reinforcements at Forts Taylor and Jefferson. By April 21, with the arrival of the U.S.S. *Illinois* at Fort Pickens, reinforcements totaled about nine hundred men, up from the initial eighty men which occupied the fort in January. This ability of the Union navy to quickly transport troops and effectively mass troops at any given maritime choke point was just beginning to be realized and felt by Confederate military and state leaders. This unchallenged capability was extremely important in the implementation of, Union combined navy and army strategy in Florida, as the war progressed.

Another important element of Union naval strategy was the seizure of ships and the destruction of salt works, cotton depots, and other economic and war-fighting materiel located along Florida's coast, bays, and rivers. The first raid occurred on

September 14, 1861, when Lieutenant John H. Russell, USN, **U.S.S. Colorado**, with a party of 100 men in four boats boarded and burned the unfinished Confederate privateer schooner **Judah** and spiked guns at Pensacola Navy Yard. After January 1862, raids were more frequent and primarily geared at the destruction of economic commodities. On January 16 Commander George R. Emmons, USN, and boat crews from the **U.S.S. Hatteras**, attacked Cedar Key and destroyed a Confederate battery; seven small vessels loaded with cotton and turpentine ready to run the blockade; a railroad depot; several flat cars; a wharf of the Florida Railroad; and the telegraph office. The last "Union raid from the sea" came October 19-20, 1864, when a boat expedition under Acting Master George E. Hill, USN, **U.S.S. Stars and Stripes**, ascended the Ochlockonee River, destroyed an extensive Confederate fishery on Marsh's Island, and captured a detachment of soldiers guarding the works.

The distillation of salt from sea water became a major industry in Florida during the Civil War. For salt, at this time, was among the most critical "strategic materials" in the Confederate war effort. Large quantities were needed to preserve meat, fish, butter, and other perishable foods, as well as for medicine and curing hides. As such, the Florida salt works were a constant target for fast-hitting Union boat expeditions aimed at drying up the source of intended supplies for the Confederate armies.

By January 19, 1863, the Union blockade was having an effect

on the supply of salt. An intercepted letter from Nassau, Bahamas, indicated: "There are men here who are making immense fortunes by shipping goods to Dixie ... Salt, for example, is one of the most paying things to send in. Here in Nassau it is only worth 60 cents a bushel, but in Charleston it brings at auction from 80 to 100 in Confederate money, but as Confederate money is no good out of the Confederacy, they send back cotton or turpentine, which, if it reaches here, is worth proportionally as much here as the salt is there.... It is a speculation by which one makes either 600 or 800 per cent or loses all." (Civil War Naval Chronology 1861-1865, Compiled by Naval History Division, Navy Department, GPO, Washington, D.C., 1971, pg III-12)

The first Confederate salt works attacked in Florida occurred September 8, 1862, when a landing party from the **U.S.S. Kingfisher** destroyed the works at St. Josephs Bay, reporting it produced approximately 200 bushels a day. Confederate officials in Florida placed so much importance on the salt works, that by January 9, 1863, W. Fisher, First Lieutenant of Organized Salt-makers, reported that all salt-makers, 498 men, on the Florida coast between the St. Marks and Suwannee Rivers "were enrolled and organized into companies, with rules of discipline and appointed places of rendezvous in case of attack." The last salt works destroyed was on February 1-4, 1865, by a boat expedition from the **U.S.S. Midnight** at St. Andrews Bay. Overall there were fourteen salt raids conducted by the Union navy in Florida from September 1862 to February 1865. Though salt raids often lacked dramatic



appeal, they nevertheless required ceaseless activity and untiring effort, and were instrumental in bringing the Confederacy to defeat.

The Union Navy also performed very effective coastal bombardment of cities and ports from one or more warships either alone or in conjunction with Union army bombardments. The first joint army-navy bombardment was on November 22-23, 1861, in retaliation for the October 9, Confederate attack on Colonel William Wilson's (USA) camp east of Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island. The two day combined bombardment, the largest such action in Florida during the war, included the U.S.S. *Niagara*, Flag Officer William W. McKean, USN, and the U.S.S. *Richmond*, Captain Francis B. Ellison, USN, supporting Fort Pickens and its adjacent sand batteries against Confederate defenses at Fort McRee, the Pensacola Navy Yard, the town of Warrington, and the Confederate side-wheel steamer *Naefie* (or *Neaffie*), under command of Major Lovell, CSA.

There were several instances of the sole use of Union naval gunfire to bombard Florida coastal cities during the war. On April 13, 1862, Lieutenant William B. Eaton, USN, U.S.S. *Beauregard*, demanded the surrender of the Confederate garrison at Fort Brooke, Tampa Bay. When his demands were refused, he shelled the fort before withdrawing. On June 15, 1862, Lieutenant John C. Howell, USN, U.S.S. *Tahoma*, and Lieutenant Earl English, USN, U.S.S. *Somerset*, crossed the bar at St. Marks, shelled Fort Ward and the lighthouse, and landed a small boat party which destroyed

several buildings and destroyed a Confederate battery. Naval gunfire operations on the St. Johns River occurred on September 10-11, 1862, when the U.S.S. *Uncas*, Acting Master Lemuel G. Crane, USN, and the U.S.S. *Patroon*, Acting Master William D. Urann, USN, engaged Confederate batteries at St. Johns Bluff, for four and one-half hours. The *Uncas* sustained some minor damage. Again on the September 17 in the St. Johns, the U.S.S. *Paul Jones*, *Cimarron*, and three other Union vessels bombarded the batteries. During the war there were approximately fifteen such army-navy and navy bombardments of Confederate positions along the Florida coast and up the St. Johns, St. Marys, Escambia, and St. Marks Rivers. The ability of the Union to project its sea power ashore through the use of its navy (often by surprise from over the horizon), shell a port, city, or fort, withdraw as quickly as it appeared, and then return at its convenience, was precisely what frustrated General Lee in late 1861. It was seapower that caused Lee to withdraw all Confederate coastal defense in Florida by mid-1862.

The remaining aspect of Union naval strategy to be examined complemented naval bombardment of Florida coastal facilities. This strategy called for the use of the fleet to maintain offshore firepower to protect Union forts and posts. Throughout the war, from late 1860 and early 1861, when Forts Jefferson, Taylor, and Pickens were occupied and strengthened; through the establishment of Union posts on the St. Johns River at Jacksonville, Yellow Bluff, and Palatka; to troop landings on Santa Rosa Island, St. Marks, Fernandina, Charlotte Harbor, and St. Augustine; the Union

Navy played a vital role protecting all such army facilities and operations. The very presence of the Union Navy and the firepower it possessed, was sufficient deterrence in Florida to keep the Confederate army from attacking the army forts, posts, and garrisons protected by the fleet.

The Union navy performed admirably during the Civil War in the accomplishment of its mission. If there were shortcomings, they were few. The most critical shortcoming was insufficient shallow draft boats, that drew no more than three feet, to penetrate the many shallow rivers throughout Florida. Midway through the war, Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding in Pensacola, District of West Florida, saw the importance of having such shallow draft craft. On assuming command of the district in October 1863, he repeatedly requested shallow draft steamers from his superiors in the Department of the Gulf in New Orleans, to: (1) aid him in raiding Confederate camps throughout West Florida, Southwest Georgia, and Southeast Alabama; (2) bring in Union sympathizers to organize into loyal Florida military units; and (3) destroy Confederate supply depots on and near the rivers. Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding the District of Key West and Tortugas, in the same department, also recognized the importance of small craft which would allow access into the very shallow rivers, tributaries and inlets draining from the Everglades in South Florida. Before his death in September 1864, he had designed and ordered a small flat-bottomed boat from the War Department, which would allow him the flexibility he needed to get

into the south Florida peninsula and stop the flow of cattle northward. These cattle, estimated at 2,000 head a month during 1862 and 1863, along with other livestock in Florida, were the source of meat for the Confederate armies in north Georgia and Tennessee. General Asboth received two steamers by middle 1864. He used them extensively in Union army operations in West Florida, to transport troops from Fort Barrancas, near Pensacola, up the Escambia, Blackwater, and Choctawhatchee Rivers, to protect the landings, and remove the force once an operation was completed. The Union navy could have used more shallow draw boats. It is conceivable that the war could have been shortened by six months or even a year, if adequate Union army and navy operations had been undertaken to cut off the cattle supply from south and central Florida, and to make a major drive from Fort Pickens to the northeast into the heart of Georgia and eastward into Panhandle Florida. These areas were the most agriculturally productive areas in the Confederacy by 1863 and 1864, due to droughts in the middle portions of the South. Such operations in conjunction with others in Virginia, Tennessee, and North Georgia were possible for the Union. If they were seriously discussed, they were never implemented. Union emphasis remained focused on Virginia and Tennessee, not Florida.

Though the Union blockade was imposed on April 19, 1861, but the formal naval command structure for the blockade was not implemented until June 1861 under the guidance and direction of (then) Captain Samuel F. Du Pont, USN. The formal command

# UNION COMMAND STRUCTURE FOR SOUTHEASTERN USA

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH (HQ - HILTON HEAD, SC)  
(SC, GA, AND FLORIDA EAST OF THE APALACHICOLA RIVER)\*

MAJ GEN DAVID HUNTER (15 MAR 62 - 1 SEP 62)  
MAJ GEN O.M. MITCHELL (1 SEP 62 - 27 OCT 62 (DIED))  
BRIG GEN JOHN BRANNON (27 OCT 62 - 20 JAN 63)  
MAJ GEN DAVID HUNTER (20 JAN 63 - 3 JUN 63)  
BRIG THEN MAJ GEN QUINCY GILLMORE (3 JUN 63 - 4 APR 64)  
BRIG GEN JOHN HATCH (4 APR 64 - TEMP; 1 - 26 MAY 64)  
MAJ GEN JOHN FOSTER (26 MAY 64 - 31 JAN 65)  
MAJ GEN QUINCY GILLMORE (31 JAN - 16 APR 65)  
MAJ GEN O.C. ORD (16 APR 65 - END OF WAR)

\*DISTRICT OF FLORIDA CREATED WITHIN THE DEPT OF THE SOUTH 15 FEB 64  
DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF\*\* (HQ - NEW ORLEANS, LA) INCLUDED DISTRICT OF  
PENSACOLA AND WEST FLORIDA, AND DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS

MAJ GEN BENJAMIN BUTLER (1 MAY 62 - 15 DEC 62)  
MAJ GEN NATHANIEL BANKS (15 DEC 62 - 20 MAY 64)  
MAJ GEN S.A. HURLBURT (AUG 64 - MAY 65)

\*\*May 20, 64 - Placed under control of the military division of west Mississippi  
("Trans Mississippi Div") Maj Gen Edward R. Canby - HQ - New Orleans, LA.

structure called for North and South Atlantic and a Gulf blockading squadrons. Rear Admiral William Mervine, USN, **U.S.S. Mississippi**, commanded the Gulf Blockading Squadron, and set the blockade at Key West on June 8. He was relieved in the fall of 1861, by Flag Officer William W. McKean, USN, flagship **U.S.S. Niagara**. In January 20, 1862, the Gulf Blockading Squadron, on orders from U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, was divided into East and West Squadrons. Flag Officer David Glasgow Farragut, USN, flagship **U.S.S. Hartford**, was appointed to command the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron. The bounds of the command extended from the Choctawhatchee River in West Florida to the Rio Grande. Flag Officer William W. McKean, USN, was ordered to command the Eastern Gulf Blockading Squadron. The jurisdiction of this command covered the Florida Gulf and east coasts as far north as Cape Canaveral. It also included the Straits of Florida, Cuba, and the Bahamas. The remaining Florida coastal area north of Cape Canaveral on the Atlantic coast came within the jurisdiction of Flag Officer Samuel Du Pont, USN, commanding the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron. Rear Admiral McKean was relieved by Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey, USN, in 1863, who in turn was succeeded by Rear Admiral Cornelius K. Stribling, USN, in 1864, as commander of the Eastern Gulf Blockading Squadron. Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren, USN, relieved Real Admiral Du Pont in June 1863, as commander of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron. From July 29, 1863, to January 12, 1864, Real Admiral Farragut temporarily relinquished command of the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron to

Commodore Henry H. Bell, USN, who hoisted his broad pennant on board the U.S.S. **Pensacola**. After his victory in the Battle of Mobile Bay, Farragut was relieved by Rear Admiral Henry K. Thatcher, USN.

Shortly after general hostilities ended, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Gustavus V. Fox, on May 31, 1865, ordered a reduction in the Eastern Gulf Blockading Squadron to ten steamers and four tugboats, and redesignated it the East Gulf Squadron. The South Atlantic Blockading Squadron was reduced to fifteen steamers and six tugboats, and redesignated the South Atlantic Squadron. On June 9, the East and West Gulf Squadrons were combined and redesignated the Gulf Squadron, under the command of Rear Admiral Thatcher, with headquarters at Pensacola. The North and South Atlantic Squadrons were also combined and redesignated the Atlantic Squadron, under the command of by Rear Admiral William Radford, USN. Finally, on July 7, Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, ordered the Atlantic Squadron to be reduced to ten vessels, and the Gulf Squadron to twelve ships.

Union Army Strategy: At the beginning of the Civil War, Union army strategy in Florida was to capture and hold strategically located forts and outposts throughout the state. From these locations, the army launched expeditions and raids into the interior of the state to disrupt and destroy lines of communications, railroad track, and bridges. Also, these raids were to remove or burn cotton, lumber, and other materials which Florida exported to Europe for supplies and war materiel. By mid-

1863, with full appreciation of the importance of Florida as the main supplier of cattle and other foodstuffs to the western Confederate armies, the strategy was altered to include expeditions into the interior of East Florida, west of the St. Johns River.

With the occupation and control of Forts Taylor and Jefferson in the Florida Keys, and Fort Pickens at Pensacola, by January 1861, the Union army had two excellent bases for operations into western and southern Florida. But, in East Florida, Fort Clinch at Amelia Island, near Fernandina and the mouth of the St. Marys River, and Fort Marion at St. Augustine, and the ports of Jacksonville, Fernandina, St. Augustine, and Smyrna (Mosquito Inlet), were still under Confederate control, though blockaded by the Union navy. This required a joint Union army-navy expedition to secure a base in north-east Florida at Fernandina.

The joint Army-Navy amphibious expedition to capture Fernandina, departed Wassaw Sound, Georgia, southeast of Savannah, on February 28, 1862, and anchored off the port on March 2. The expedition of twenty ships, under the command of Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, and a brigade of Union soldiers under the command of Brigadier General Horatio G. Wright, USA, captured the evacuated: Fernandina, Amelia, and Talbot Islands; Fort Clinch and the town of St. Marys. As previously discussed, General Lee decided to move defenses in-land rather than face the constant pressure and firepower from the Union navy. He had ordered all indefensible coastal areas evacuated. From February 1862 to the end of the war, the Confederate troops evacuated from



Fernandina, St. Augustine, Jacksonville, Apalachicola, and Pensacola moved to the interior of Florida, and pursued a strategy of strategic defense.

On March 8-9, 1862, St. Augustine and Fort Marion, having been evacuated by Confederate troops in the face of the Union naval threat, surrendered to Commander C. R. P. Rodgers, USN, U.S.S. **Wabash**, and on the 12th Jacksonville was occupied by a landing party of six companies of Union troops from the U.S.S. **Ottawa**, U.S.S. **Seneca**, and U.S.S. **Pembina**, under the command of Lieutenant Thomas H. Stevens, USA. But, by April 9 Jacksonville was evacuated by Union forces and the troops were sent to strengthen Fernandina and St. Augustine.

With Fernandina and St. Augustine occupied, as well as Forts Pickens, Taylor, and Jefferson, the Union army began to implement the second phase of its strategy in Florida. This was a limited land offensive strategy of raids and expeditions into areas close to strong-holds and into the interior of the state. The first reported raid in East Florida occurred April 10, 1862, when a small Union detachment skirmished with a larger Confederate force near a railroad bridge which spanned the creek separating Amelia Island from the main-land.

Interestingly enough, though Fort Pickens had been in Union hands from the beginning of the Civil War, there were no Union army raids from that post into west Florida until after the evacuation of Forts Barrancas and McRee, Navy Yard, and Pensacola by Confederate forces on May 9, and reoccupation by Union troops on

May 10, 1862. All military action in Florida up until this point, except for the joint army-navy bombardment of Fort McRee and Warrington on November 22-23, 1861, was initiated by the Union navy. Action in Florida by the navy included ships captured attempting to run the blockade, landing parties from Union ships raiding Florida coastal areas, and the support of the Union army in its operations to capture Fernandina, Jacksonville, and St. Augustine. Union army raids in Florida, to probe the interior of the state, did not begin in earnest until October 1863 in west Florida, when Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, assumed command of the District of West Florida. And it was not until April 1864, after the final reoccupation of Jacksonville, that raids began to be routine into the eastern portion of the state. In January 1864, in south Florida, Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding the District of Key West and Tortugas, began conducting raids along the western Gulf Coast south of the Suwannee River. Once begun, these raids steadily increased. By the end of the war, they had taken their toll on Confederate forces and the civilian population in Florida.

On October 1, 1862, the Union army, under the command of Brigadier General John M. Brannon, USA, escorted by several Navy gunboats appeared off the St. Johns River. After several exchanges with Confederate batteries at St. Johns Bluff, which were subsequently evacuated, and skirmishes with Confederate troops near Mayport and Jacksonville, Jacksonville was reoccupied on the 5th. But, it was evacuated on October 11. Thereupon, the Union army did

not return to Jacksonville until March 10, 1863, but, again, evacuated it on the 31st. The final occupation of Jacksonville by Union forces occurred on February 7, 1864. Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding a Union operation called the Florida Expedition (a joint army-navy operation from Hilton Head, South Carolina) disembarked with a large Union force. He had orders to reoccupy Jacksonville, move into the interior, and occupy the strategic railroad junction at Baldwin. The Florida Expedition was the largest joint amphibious operation during the war in Florida. It also resulted in the largest military engagement of the war in the state, the Battle of Olustee (Ocean Pond), February 1864, and a defeat for the Union Army.

Union army raids and operations in west Florida under the command of General Asboth, from Pensacola, had better success than the raids in east Florida. The raids against Milton, Marianna, and Bagdad, and up the Blackwater, Choctawhatchee, and Escambia Rivers were well coordinated with and supported by the Union navy. Similarly, the expeditions in south Florida at Fort Myers, Charlotte Harbor, and Tampa were successful under General Woodbury and his successor, Brigadier General John Newton, USA. This does not mean that all the raids and expeditions in east Florida were unsuccessful. It appeared the Union commanders in that area of the state did not fully understand their strategy and mission. The continual occupation followed by evacuation of Jacksonville, rather than establishment of Jacksonville as the main base for deeper expeditions into the interior of east Florida, west of the St.

Johns River, would have been a better use of manpower, logistics and energies.

Union Joint Army-Navy Operations Strategy: In part, combined strategy has already been addressed under navy strategy. Along with the Union navy strategy the joint army-navy operations in Florida were very successful throughout the Civil War. There was only one joint operation that failed due to the inability of the Union navy to fully support the expedition. The March 5-6, 1865 raid on St. Marks and Newport ended in a Union defeat at the Battle of Natural Bridge, fifteen miles south of Tallahassee, the state capitol. Not having shallow draft vessels, most the Union navy was unable to cross the St. Marks Bar. The few ships that crossed the bar drew to much water to proceed up the shallow St. Marks River to render assistance to army forces for a crossing at either St. Marks or Newport.

Other than this one campaign, all Union joint army-navy amphibious expeditions to land Union army troops in Florida were successful. Also, all operations that relied on the Union navy to give protection for disembarked Union troops were successful. These operations were conducted at Jacksonville, Fernandina, Fort Pickens, Apalachicola, Tampa and in Charlotte Harbor. Difficulties occurred when the Union army extended itself beyond its supply lines, did not fully comprehend the Confederate force in front of it, and failed to follow the dictates of its own strategy.

The Union national command structure for the Southeastern United States was created on March 15, 1862, with the Department of

the South, headquarters at Hilton Head, South Carolina, responsible for South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida, Major General David Hunter, USA, commanding. Through the war there was a successive change of commanding officers. Hunter was relieved by Major General O. M. Mitchell, USA, who died in October 1862. Following Mitchell, were Brigadier General John Brannon, USA, General Hunter again, then Major General Quincy Gillmore, USA, Brigadier General John Hatch, USA, Major General John Foster, USA, General Gillmore again, and finally Major General O. C. Ord, USA, from April 1865 through the end of the war. At the outset of the war, Pensacola (Fort Pickens), Key West and Tortugas were in the Department of the South. Pensacola was added to the Department of the Gulf (headquarters at New Orleans) on August 8, 1862. On March 16, 1863, Key West and Tortugas were added to the Department of the Gulf. On May 20, 1864, the Department of the Gulf, including the Districts of Pensacola (West Florida), Key West and Tortugas, were placed under the control of the Military Division of the West Mississippi ("Trans-Mississippi Division"), Major General Edward R. Canby, USA, commanding from New Orleans. The Union command structure in Florida itself was organized into the Department of Florida, headquarters at Key West, from April 1861 to January 1862. Because of the importance of Fort Pickens early in the war, Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, commanding the Department of Florida, resided at Fort Pickens, rather than at Fort Taylor in Key West. He was relieved by Brigadier General Lewis Arnold, USA, on February 22, 1862. There were several changes and redesignation of names for

the Department of Florida. The Department of Key West was designated in January 1862, then it became the District of Key West and Tortugas in March 1863 within the Department of the South, just before it was added to the Department of the Gulf, on March 16, 1863.

Fort Pickens and Pensacola were initially part of the Department of Florida, then on July 18, 1862 they were designated the Western District of Florida or District of Pensacola, within the Department of the South. Like Key West and Tortugas, Fort Pickens and Pensacola were added to the Department of the Gulf on August 18, 1862. The dividing line between the District of Pensacola and West Florida, and the remainder of Florida (District of Florida, within the Department of the South) was the Apalachicola River.

Conclusions: Union navy as well as Union joint army-navy operational policy and strategy were solid throughout the Civil War in Florida. Both adapted to the war being fought, adhered to the basic guidelines in the Anaconda Plan, and achieved a great deal of success. The Union army strategy was valid early in the war. After 1863, Union army strategy was neither ambitious or of great success. There was no obvious coordination between the Department of the Gulf, in New Orleans, commanding the Districts of West Florida, and Key West and Tortugas, and the Department of the South, in Hilton Head, which commanded the greater portion of Florida. Major operations or campaigns were launched and conducted in contingent departments, a seeming vacuum of support,

consideration, --- or notification. When one operation or campaign was planned for one department there was no simultaneous or supporting operation or campaign planned for the other Department. Because Florida was so poorly defended by Confederate troops, readily accessible to almost any Union joint army-navy amphibious landing, an important source of cattle, live stock, and other foodstuff for the western Confederate armies, and (by April 1862) under the control of Union forces at four strategically important areas - Forts Taylor and Jefferson in the Keys, Fort Clinch at Fernandina and Fort Marion at St. Augustine, on the southeast Atlantic coast, and Forts Pickens and Barrancas at Pensacola - there were significant opportunities through combined (departmental) Union operations to move in force into the state, take Florida out of the war and strike into south Georgia at the same time other campaigns were underway in Tennessee and Virginia. If this had been pursued, it is conceivable that the Civil War could have been shortened by six months or even a year - at a great saving of life and materiel.

#### Chapter V

#### CONCLUSIONS

The Civil War in Florida was stereoscopic with other Southern states during the war, and a microcosm of the war at large. In the state there was one large engagement, the Battle of Olustee; several medium size actions, the Battles of Marianna, Gainesville, Natural Bridge and Santa Rosa Island; and many raids, skirmishes

and small unit confrontations. In the territorial waters there was the Union blockade; surprise raids and bombardments from the Union navy; and joint Union army-navy operations. On civil-military relations there was the strong defense oriented executive, John Milton, who continually argued with both national and local military commanders on how Florida should be defended. There were counter-revolutionaries, guerrilla units, draft-dodgers, bandits, and outlaws who preyed on both Union and Confederate supporters. One saw a typical image of a Southern state with an agriculture economy, with limited war-fighting capabilities, mobilized for war, pursue a war of attrition, and survive under harsh conditions.

Strategically, one saw the Confederacy assume a partial strategic defensive. The strategy was effective, but never pursued to its fullest possibility. Union strategy used the navy exceptionally well and implemented an offensive strategy which ultimately defeated the South. Strategy implemented by the Union army was initially inefficient and ineffective, not properly organized or thought through. There were many lost opportunities which, if the Union had eagerly pursued, would have shortened the war and lessened the hardships on both sides.

There remains much work to be done to fully comprehend the Civil War in Florida. But the first step has been taken and the new ground broken.



**PART TWO: CHRONOLOGY**  
(NOVEMBER 1860-JULY 1865)

A CHRONOLOGY OF THE CIVIL WAR IN FLORIDA  
AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS  
(November 1860 - July 1865)

1860

NOVEMBER

- 10 Report of Captain of Engineers Montgomery C. Meigs, USA, in command of Fort Jefferson, Tortugas, Florida, on the situation in Florida he observed en route to Fort Jefferson, and conditions at Key West and the Tortugas.

"Fort Jefferson, Harbor of the Dry Tortugas, Fla.,

Lieut. Gen. Winfield Scott,  
Commanding U.S. Army, New York:

Dear Sir: As the only engineer present on duty upon the fortifications in this vicinity, I feel compelled to address you on a subject of importance to the public service, and yet one upon which I do not feel at liberty to write a formal official letter. Pardon the liberty or irregularity, and make such use of the views which I present as your own opinion of their value and importance may require. I have just assumed command of this work. I left Washington on the 22nd of October. I traveled by the way of Lynchburg, via Knoxville, Tenn., Columbus, Ga., and Montgomery, Ala., to Pensacola. There I took the mail steamer, and, touching off Apalachicola, Saint Mark's, Cedar Keys, and Tampa, I reached Key West on the 7th and this place the next day. I found on some parts of the route a very strong feeling of hostility to the Union. I heard from men reputed to be sober, careful, conscientious citizens, expressions of regret for the danger to the Union, but of belief that its preservation for many years was impossible, and of a feeling that if a struggle was to come they would prefer its coming now. About Columbus, Ga., and Montgomery, Ala., I gather that this feeling of disloyalty to the Union is particularly rife. I wish to speak only of that portion of the South through which I myself have passed. Between Montgomery and Pensacola are extensive pine forests remote from market, to the tillers of whose unfertile soil the questions of negro labor are not vital. Among these, I think, secession and disunion find no favor. At Pensacola the majority of the people are loyal. At Key West the question has been discussed as to the effect of a demand by the Governor of Florida [Madison S. Perry] for the possession of the U.S. public works. This is enough to show that such a demand is regarded as within the range of possibilities. Resistance to the inauguration or to the administration of a Republican President has been openly discussed. Having only

a semi-monthly mail, we do not yet know the result of the late election. I believe that the temper of the south is excited -- is dangerous. I do not think that any concerted plan is agreed upon, but Southerner Senators are reported to intend resigning if Mr. Lincoln is elected. A wise discretion and preparation on the part of the authorities, I think, would prevent any such general outbreak as would require the active use of military force.

"There is danger, however, that a few ardent, desperate men, seeing the great fortifications of Pensacola, of Key West, of this harbor --- the key of the Gulf --- unoccupied by troops, may emulate the fame of Ethan Allen, and by a much less dangerous blow secure for themselves distinction with their party as seizing some of these undefended posts. The enterprise is easy and safe. That leaders and men are to be found, Walker's numerous expeditions prove. The Barrancas, Fort McRee, and Fort Pickens, at Pensacola, are armed, but I doubt whether more than one man is to be found at either of them. The few troops occupy the barracks, which are without the walls. Fort Taylor is partly armed. A clerk or draughtsman and perhaps a few laborer live within the ramparts. A single company of artillery is quartered in pasteboard barracks two miles distant. At this place, Fort Jefferson, there is not a single gun, and I doubt whether among the seventy or eighty persons, white and black, employed or permitted on the island half a dozen fowling pieces could be found. The embrasures of the lower tier are ready for their guns. Magazines exist for ammunition. The walls are thirty feet in height, and the armament of the flanks by a few carronades or howitzers and the placing of one or two heavy guns on each curtain, with a proper supply of ammunition and small-arms, would enable a single company of artillery, with the aid of the volunteers who could be gathered from the wrecking and fishing fleet in these waters and from the workmen and others here employed, to hold this extensive and important work against any such expedition, and the fact that the work was thus prepared would be sufficient to prevent any attempt upon it. At present both this place and Fort Taylor are at the mercy of a party which could be transported in a fishing smack. What a disgrace such an assault, if successful, would inflict upon our Government. How easy to prevent all hostile attempts, and how much better than to suppress them. I think that Fort Taylor should be quietly occupied, and that a few guns and a small garrison should be sent to this place. The climate is such that troops could encamp in the casements with shelter from sun and rain in greater comfort than in the barracks of a colder climate. For the officers of a small garrison the quarters already erected would suffice until others could be prepared. The commanders at these exposed posts should be men carefully selected, known to hold their allegiance to a State or section subordinate to that due to the General Government, whose commissions they

bear. "Trusting that you will not consider this letter intrusive, I remain, general, with the highest respect, your most obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,  
Captain of Engineers."

(U.S. War Dept. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Washington: GPO, 1880-1901, Ser I, Vol 52, Part I, pg 3-5)\*

\*Hereafter indicated as (WOR: Ser \_\_, Vol \_\_, Part \_\_, pg \_\_)

- 15 Lieutenant Thomas A. Craven, commanding U.S. Naval Forces at Key West, notified Secretary of the Navy Isaac Toucey that due to "the present deplorable condition of affairs in the Southern States" he had moved to prevent the seizure "by any bands of lawless men" of Forts Taylor and Jefferson. Lieutenant Craven, in U.S.S. Mohawk, defended Fort Jefferson and Lieutenant Fabius Stanly, in U.S.S. Wyandotte, held Fort Taylor. This action enabled the Union to retain the vital Key West posts, the importance of which, Lieutenant Craven noted "can not be over estimated, commanding as they do the commerce of the Gulf of Mexico." (CWNC: pg I-2) Key West, preserved for the Union, would play the key role it has played throughout the United States's history as a naval base, rendezvous and training center for operations east, west, and south. (CWNC: pg II-25) Ordnance and ordnance stores at Fort Taylor and Key West Barracks included: "At Fort Taylor - Sixty sea-coast and garrison cannon, viz: Fifty 8-inch columbiads and ten 24-inch flanking howitzers, with caissons, and four 12-pounder field howitzers, mounted; 4,530 projectiles, suited to the guns; 34,459 pounds of powder; 2,826 cartridge bags; 962 priming tubes, and 759 cartridges for small arms. "At Key West Barracks - Four 6-pounder field guns and carriages; 1,101 rounds of shot and other ammunition for the same; 171 pounds of powder; 158 cartridge bags; 538 priming tubes; 7 rifles, and 2,000 rifle cartridges." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 349-350)

#### DECEMBER

- 20 Ordinance of Secession adopted by South Carolina.

LATE U.S. Secretary of the Navy ordered commander of naval forces in the Key West area, assisting Captain M. C. Meigs, USA, in the defense of Forts Taylor and Jefferson at Key West and Tortugas, to "leave this post and return to his cruising ground." Shortly thereafter, the US steamer Mohawk captured a bark and a brig "fitted out in New Orleans for the slave trade."

1861

JANUARY

- 4 Captain John M. Brannon, USA, First Artillery, commanding Key West Barracks, Florida, ordered to "transfer the whole of your company to Fort Taylor. Be on your guard against surprise or assault, and do the utmost in your power to prevent the seizure of your fort. Consult with the commander of any United States man-of-war in the harbor, and invite his co-operation." Also, Brevet Major Lewis G. Arnold, USA, ordered to proceed by steamer and garrison Fort Jefferson, Tortugas, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 345)
- 5 Florida Governor Madison S. Perry authorized and empowered Colonel Dunn, Florida militia, "to raise a company of picked men and proceed to the Apalachicola River [Chattahoochee, Florida] and seize and possess the arsenal, arms, ammunition, stores, buildings, and other property now in the possession of the General Government, and retain the same subject to my orders. You are requested to act with secrecy and discretion. You are further authorized to call out the Seventh Regiment Florida Militia [if deemed] necessary."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 332)
- 6 U.S. Arsenal Chattahoochee, Florida, known as the Apalachicola Arsenal, and the only arsenal in the state, under control of Ordnance Sergeant E. Powell, USA, seized by Florida troops, under command of Colonel Dunn, 7:00 A.M. The ordnance and ordnance stores at the arsenal included: "one 6-pounder iron gun and carriage, with 326 shot and canisters for the same, 57, flint-lock muskets, 5,122 pounds of powder, 173,476 cartridges for small-arms, and a small quantity of different kinds of accouterments."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 332, 349)
- 7 Fort Marion (Old Spanish "Castle St. Marcus"), St. Augustine, Florida, under control of Ordnance Sergeant Henry Douglas, USA, seized by Florida troops. The ordnance and ordnance stores at Fort Marion included: "Six field batteries, of four 6-pounder guns and two 12-pounder howitzers, and twenty sea-coast and garrison cannon, viz: Four 8-inch howitzers and sixteen 32-pounder guns; also, six 6-pounder old iron guns, and 31 foreign guns of various calibers; 2,021 projectiles; 330 rounds of fixed ammunition; 873 priming tubes, and 931 pounds of powder. Also, 110 muskets, 103 rifles, 118 Hall's carbines, 98 pistols, 147,720 cartridges for small-arms, and

15,000 percussion caps."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 333, 350)

- 9-10 First Lieutenant Adam J. Slemmer, First Artillery, USA, commanding, removed Company G, First Artillery (48 men including officers), from Fort Barrancas and Barrancas Barracks, Florida, to Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island, with assistance from U.S.S. Wyandotte, Captain Berryman, and U.S. storeship Supply, Captain Walke. Fort Pickens remained in Union control throughout the war.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 335-337)

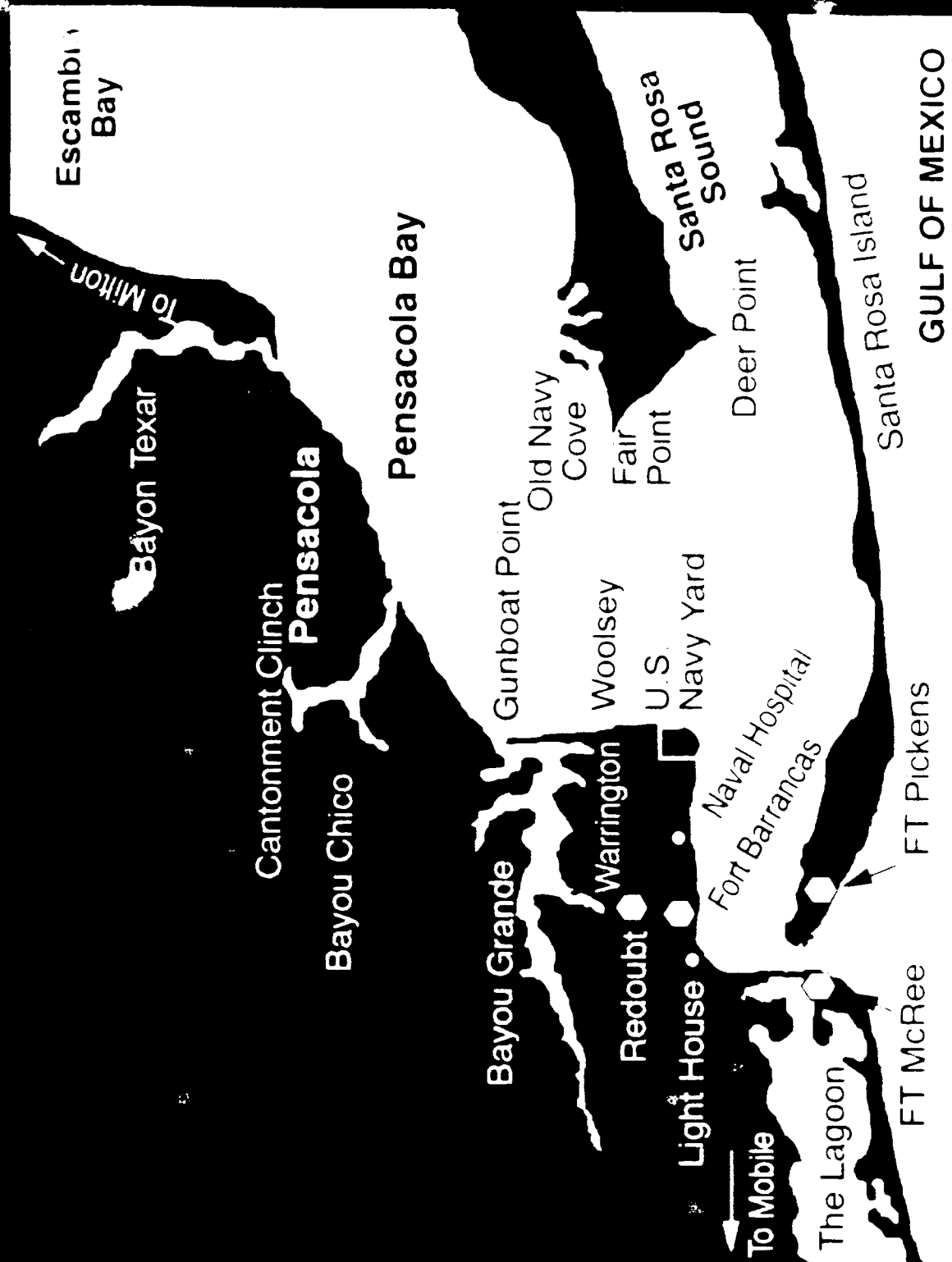
#### MAP OF PENSACOLA

- 9 In compliance with request of Florida Governor Madison S. Perry, two regiments of Alabama volunteers arrived in Pensacola, Florida to cooperate with Florida forces in seizure of the Navy yard and forts.  
(Miller, Francis T., and Lanier, Robert S., The Photographic History of The Civil War, Review of Reviews Co., New York NY, 1912, Vol 1, pg 87)\*

\*Hereafter indicated as (PHCW: Vol \_\_, pg \_\_)

**U.S.S. Star of the West** failed to relieve Fort Sumter in

# MILITARY SITES IN THE PENSACOLA VICINITY



Charleston Harbor, South Carolina.

- 10 The Florida Ordinance of Secession adopted, by a vote of 62 to 2, becoming the third state to secede from the Union following South Carolina and Mississippi.

Brevet Major Lewis G. Arnold, USA, embarked on the U.S.S. **Joseph Whitney**, with four officers and sixty-two men, and departed Key West, Florida to garrison Fort Jefferson in the Tortugas.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 345)

- 11 Lieutenant Erben, USA, **U.S. Storeship Supply**, destroyed all powder and materials at Forts Barrancas and McRee, the Redoubt, and Pensacola Navy Yard that he could not transport to Fort Pickens, Florida. Ordnance and ordnance stores at Forts Barrancas and McRee, and Barrancas Barracks prior to destruction and at Fort Pickens included:

"At Fort Barrancas - Forty-four sea-coast and garrison cannon and 43 carriages, viz: Thirteen 8-inch columbiads and howitzers; two 10-inch mortars, and eleven 32, ten 24, five 18, and three 19-pounder guns; 3,152 projectiles for the same; 20,244 pounds of powder, and 2,966 cartridge bags.

"At Barrancas Barracks - A field battery, consisting of four 6-pounder guns and two 12-pounder howitzers, with carriages, and six caissons, with 300 projectiles and 270 cartridge bags for the same.

"At Fort McRee - One hundred and twenty-five sea-coast and garrison cannon, including three 10-inch and twelve 8-inch columbiads; twenty-two 42, twenty-four 32, and sixty-four 24 pounder guns, with 64 gun carriages; 9,026 projectiles, and 1,258 stands of grape and canister, and 19,298 pounds of powder.

"At Fort Pickens - Two hundred and one sea-coast and garrison cannon, viz: Four 10-inch columbiads and four 10-inch mortars, fifty 8-inch and flanking howitzers, and two 42, sixty-two 32, fifty-nine 24, six 18, and fourteen 12 pounder guns, and 128 carriages for the same; also, 4,974 projectiles of all kinds; 3,195 grape-shot, loose; 500 24-pounder stands canister shot; 12,712 pounds of powder, and 1,728 cartridge bags."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 341, 349-350)

- 12 Fort Barrancas, Barrancas Barracks, Fort McRee, the Pensacola Navy Yard, Captain James Armstrong, USN, commanding, and the side-wheeler **Fulton**, formerly of the U.S. Navy, seized by Florida and Alabama militia.

(U. S. Naval History Division, Civil War Chronology, 1861-1865, Washington: GPO, 1971, pg I-2; VI-230)\* and (WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 337)

\*Hereafter indicated as (CWNC: pg \_)



Surrender of Fort Pickens, Santa Rosa Island, Florida, demanded by Captain Randolph, Major Marks, and Lieutenant Rutledge, on behalf of the Governors of Florida and Alabama.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 337)

- 13 Detachment of ten men from Pensacola, Florida, reconnoitered outside Fort Pickens, Santa Rosa Island. A shot fired by one of the detachment returned by the sergeant on guard duty at the fort.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 337)

- 14 Fort Taylor, Key West, Florida, garrisoned by Captain John M. Brannan, First Artillery, USA, commanding, with forty-four men.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 342)

- 15 Second demand for the surrender of Fort Pickens by Colonel William H. Chase, commander, Forces of Florida in Pensacola, accompanied by Commander Farrand, on behalf of Florida Governor Madison S. Perry.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 337)

U.S. Senators from Florida, David L. Yulee and Stephen R. Mallory, telegraphed Florida Governor Madison S. Perry they "had ceased participation in the proceedings of the Senate, and awaited receipt of authenticated ordinance [of secession] to retire formally."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 8)

- 16 U.S. Storeship Supply, Captain Walke, departed Pensacola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 338)

First Lieutenant Adam J. Slemmer, USA, commanding, refused to surrender Fort Pickens, stating "...it is our duty to hold our position until such a force is brought against us as to render it impossible to defend it, or until the political condition of the country is such as to induce us to surrender the public property in our keeping to such authorities as may be delegated legally to receive it ... we must consider you the aggressors, and if blood is shed that you are responsible therefore."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 338)

- 18 Third demand for the surrender of Fort Pickens, Santa Rosa Island, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 339)

Brevet Major Lewis G. Arnold, USA, Second U.S. Artillery, disembarked from the steamer **Joseph Whitney** and assumed command and garrisoned Fort Jefferson, Tortugas, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 346; Vol 52, Part I, pg 1))

- 19 including thirty-one ordinary seamen, two ordnance sergeants, and one hospital steward.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 339, 341)
- 20 Former Florida U.S. Senators, Stephen R. Mallory and David L. Yulee notify Florida Governor Madison S. Perry, that "Southern Senators agree that no assault on Fort Pickens should be made ... the fort is not worth one drop of blood at this time. First get the Southern Government in operation."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 445; Vol 52, Part II, pg 9)
- 23 Captain Engineers, Engineer in Charge Fort Jefferson, M. C. Meigs, arrived Fort Jefferson on board **U.S.S. Joseph Whitney**, Lieutenant Benson, commanding, "towing the **Horace Beale**, loaded with guns and ammunitions, obtained from Fort Taylor" [Key West, Florida], escorted by **U.S.S. Crusader**, Captain Maffit, commanding.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 347)
- 24 **U.S.S. Brooklyn**, Captain William S. Walker, with reinforcements for Fort Pickens, Florida, sailed from Fort Monroe, Virginia.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 344; CWNC: pg I-4)
- 29 U.S. Secretaries of the Navy and War ordered that the Marines and troops on board **U.S.S. Brooklyn**, Captain William S. Walker, en route Pensacola, not be landed to reinforce Fort Pickens unless the fort was taken under attack by the Confederates.  
(CWNC: pg I-4)
- U.S.S. Macedonia**, Captain James Glynn, passed Key West, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 344)
- 31 **U.S.S. Brooklyn**, Captain William S. Walker, arrived in Key West, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 344)

## FEBRUARY

- 4 Confederate States of America provisionally organized at Montgomery, Alabama.
- 6 Captain, First Artillery, Israel Vogdes, USA, embarked on board **U.S.S. Brooklyn**, with Company A, First Artillery, at Key West, Florida, under orders to assume command at Fort Pickens, Florida. But due to confusion in orders, First Lieutenant Adam J. Slemmer, USA, remained in command.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 357, 360, 362)

Florida forces engaged in erecting batteries, making sand

bags, etc. on Santa Rosa Island east of Fort Pickens, and on the shore opposite Fort Pickens between the Navy Yard and Fort Barrancas.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 358, 361)

- 9 U.S.S. Brooklyn, Captain William S. Walker, arrived off Pensacola. Troops were not landed at Fort Pickens in compliance with the order of 29 January, based on an interim agreement with Florida officials in which the status quo would be maintained [i.e., Forts Barrancas and McRee and Navy Yard remained in Confederate hands while the Union held Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island]. Brooklyn, Sabine, Macedonia, and St. Louis remained off Pensacola Harbor, but reinforcements were not put ashore at Fort Pickens until 12 April.  
(CWNC: pg I-5)
- 12 Colonel William H. Chase, Commander Forces of Florida, discontinued all further preparations for erecting and arming a battery west of the light-house across from Fort Pickens, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 359)
- 18 Jefferson Davis inaugurated provisional President of the Confederate States at Montgomery, Alabama.
- 21 Jefferson Davis, appointed former U.S. Senator from Florida, [hometown Pensacola] Stephen Russell Mallory, Secretary of the Confederate States Navy. Previously, in the U.S. House of Representatives, Mallory had chaired the House Naval Committee. Mallory served in this cabinet position from 1861-1865.

#### MARCH

- 4 Abraham Lincoln inaugurated President of the United States at Washington, D.C., succeeding President James Buchanan.
- 7 Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, Provisional Army, CSA, "assigned to command troops at and near Pensacola, Florida."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 448; Vol 52, Part II, pg 24)
- 9 Concern about Apalachicola, Florida. "There is over one million (value) of cotton there, [with] no fort or gun to defend it ... two companies of volunteers but without balls or powder. Something must be done, and very soon, for the protection of that place and property. Alabama will suffer more than Florida will [should it] fall into the hands of an enemy."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 448)
- 11 Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, assumed command of the

Confederate Forces in the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida, with headquarters at Fort Barrancas.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 331, 449)

- 13 Captain John M. Brannon, USA, commanding Fort Taylor reported that "everything is quiet at Key West to this date" --- a tribute to the firm policing of the area by Union naval vessels. Throughout the early months of 1861 the "showing of the flag" by the Union Fleet maintained a peaceful equilibrium in a situation fraught with tension. The much-feared attack, expected to accompany Florida's secession, did not materialize.

(CWNC: pg I-6)

Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding forces near Pensacola, Florida, wrote First Lieutenant Adam J. Slemmer, USA, commanding Fort Pickens, objecting to the battery on Santa Rosa Island bearing directly on the Pensacola Navy Yard. He further indicated the Confederate batteries bearing on the channel could not be taken as a menace against Fort Pickens.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 362)

- 15 First Lieutenant Adam J. Slemmer, USA, commanding Fort Pickens, wrote Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, that "Of the erection of the batteries on either side, I have only to say that our views on that point are directly opposite."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 363)

Work on Confederate batteries in and around Fort Pickens, Florida, previously stopped by Colonel William H. Chase, Florida Militia, ordered resumed by Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, under "the plea of being for defensive purposes."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 365)

- 18 Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding Confederate Forces in the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida issued an order forbidding any further supplies being furnished to Fort Pickens, and prohibited citizens from communicating with the Fort, except by special permission. Until this order, U.S. military forces garrisoning Fort Pickens and the U.S. naval squadron off Pensacola, had been supplied with fresh provisions from Warrington and Pensacola.

(CWNC: pg I-6; WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 363, 451)

- 20 U.S. sloop *Isabella*, carrying supplies for U.S. squadron at Pensacola, seized at Mobile, Alabama, by order of Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding forces in the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida.

(CWNC: pg I-6; WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 453)

- 23 Colonel William J. Hardee, CSA, Commander Fort Morgan, Mobile Bay, Alabama, ordered to send a boat expedition to see if

"communications can be made by water portage and land carriage from Bonsecour Bay, by Bear Creek, La Launch, and Perdido Bay, to Pensacola, [Florida]."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 454)

- 31 Report of Confederate troops near Pensacola, Florida, commanded by Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, indicated 55 Infantry Officers, 963 Infantry men, 17 General Staff, for total of 1,045, present for duty.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 455)

#### APRIL

- 2 Brevet Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, ordered "to take command of the expedition to re-enforce and hold Fort Pickens ... and assume command of all land forces of the United States within the limits of the State of Florida ... Naval officers in the Gulf will be instructed to co-operate with you, and to afford every facility in their power for the accomplishment of the object ... which is the security of Fort Pickens... Should a shot be fired at you, you will defend yourself and your expedition... You will make Fort Jefferson your main depot and base of operations. You will be careful not to reduce too much the means of the fortresses in the Florida Reef, as they are deemed of greater importance than even Fort Pickens. The naval forces in the Gulf will be instructed to co-operate with you in every way, in order to insure the safety of Fort Pickens, Fort Jefferson, and Fort Taylor."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 365-366)

- 3 Local militia at Apalachicola, Florida, organized the Perry Artillery and requested "to be speedily supplied with a necessary battery."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 456)

- 6 Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding Southern forces in and near the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida notified Confederate Secretary of War, L. P. Walker, that "re-enforcements can be landed on the outside Santa Rosa Island. Any attack by us now must be secretly made by escalade. Batteries are not ready for breaching, and we are entirely deficient in ammunition. No landing should be made on Santa Rosa Island with our present means."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol I, pg 456)

Lieutenant David Dixon Porter, ordered to take command of U.S.S. Powhatan by President Lincoln and to reinforce Fort Pickens, Pensacola, instead of Fort Sumter, departed New York.  
(CWNC: pg I-6)

- 7 Lieutenant John L. Worden, USN, departed Washington, D.C., by rail with secret orders to Captain Henry A. Adams,

commanding **U.S.S. Sabine** in Pensacola Bay, and Senior Officer Present in the Pensacola area, to reinforce Fort Pickens.  
(CWNC: pg I-6)

Brevet Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, on **U.S.S. Crusader**, Lieutenant Thomas A. Craven, and reinforcements on **U.S.S. Atlantic**, Captain Gray, departed New York for Fort Pickens, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 331- 368, 372, 374)

- 12 Civil War or The War Between the States from the Southern perspective, began when Fort Sumter, in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina, was fired on by Confederate batteries.

Lieutenant John L. Worden, later of **U.S.S. Monitor** fame, arrived in Pensacola, Florida, with secret orders from U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, to Captain Henry A. Adams, **U.S.S. Sabine** to reinforce Fort Pickens.

(CWNC: pg I-7)

Fort Pickens reinforced by landing of troops under Captain Israel Vogdes, 1st U.S. Artillery, and Marines under First Lieutenant John C. Cash, from the squadron composed of **U.S.S. Sabine**, Captain Henry A. Adams, Senior Officer Present, **U.S.S. Brooklyn**, Captain William S. Walker, **U.S.S. St. Louis**, Commander Charles H. Poor, and **U.S.S. Wyandotte**, Lieutenant J. R. Madison Mullany.

(CWNC: pg I-7; WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 331, 376)

- 13 **U.S.S. Sabine**, Captain Henry A. Adams, blockaded Pensacola Harbor, the first Atlantic port to be closed.  
(CWNC: pg I-7)

Brevet Colonel Harvey Brown, Second U.S. Artillery, USA, arrived Key West and assumed command of the Department of Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 331, 374)

First Lieutenant Adam J. Slemmer, First Artillery, USA, discovered an attempt by Confederates in Pensacola, Florida, to bribe several men of the Fort Pickens garrison "to spike the flank defense guns."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 389)

- 14 Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding forces near and in the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida sent a messenger to Fort Pickens inquiring "why the armistice in respect to re-enforcing Fort Pickens had been violated.... [Captain Israel Vogdes, USA] replied that [he] had never been a party to any armistice; that [he] had been sent by the General Government to take command of the post, and had entered under the orders of the General Government."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 378)

- 15 Brevet Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, commanding Department of Florida, arrived at Fort Jefferson on the **U.S.S. Atlantic**.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 376)

President Abraham Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers.

- 16 Confederate Secretary of War, Leroy P. Walker, urged Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding forces in and near the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida, to build a floating battery, indicating "The one at Charleston performed admirably, and Captain Hamilton, who superintended its construction, can be sent down to Pensacola."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 462)

- 17 **U.S.S. Atlantic** with Brevet Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, commanding Department of Florida arrived at Fort Pickens, Florida, with reinforcements from New York.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 331, 380)

- 18 **U.S.S. Powhatan**, Lieutenant David Dixon Porter, arrived off Pensacola, Florida. Under her protecting guns, 600 troops on board steamer **Atlantic** were landed at Fort Pickens to complete its reinforcement. President Lincoln had stated "I want that fort saved at all hazards." This was successfully achieved, and use of Pensacola Harbor, one of the best on the Gulf of Mexico was denied the Confederacy for the entire war, while serving the Union indispensably in the blockade and the series of devastating assaults from the sea that divided and destroyed the South.  
(CWNC: pg I-7)

- 19 President Lincoln issued proclamation declaring blockade of Southern ports from South Carolina to Texas.  
(CWNC: pg VI-2)

Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding in and near vicinity of Pensacola, Florida, requested "the workman who planned and Captain Hamilton who superintended the construction of the floating battery" be sent to Pensacola.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 464)

- 20 Captain of Engineers on **U.S.S. Atlantic** (troop-ship), Montgomery C. Meigs, USA, off Santa Rosa Island, Florida, to Brevet Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, commanding the Department of Florida, at Fort Pickens, indicated his understanding of "the policy of the [U.S.] Government ... to be to hold, occupy, and possess what we now have, and not to produce collision if it can be avoided; in no case to fire the first hostile gun."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 386)

Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding in and near vicinity of Pensacola, Florida, ordered all contact with Santa Rosa Island, Fort Pickens, or the United States fleet, "strictly prohibited," and declared martial law "to be rigidly enforced on all territory within five miles of the lines of this army."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 464)

- 21 **U.S.S. Illinois**, arrived at Fort Pickens, Florida, with reinforcements, which brought the total at the fort to "nine full companies aggregate about eight hundred and sixty men."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 390)

- 23 **U.S.S. Crusader** ordered stationed off Fort Taylor, Key West, Florida, to render aid and protection if needed.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 393)

#### **MAY**

- 2 General Winfield Scott wrote to President Lincoln suggesting a cordon capable of enveloping the seceded states and noted that "the transportation of men and all supplies by water is about a fifth of the land cost, besides the immense savings of time."  
(CWNC: pg I-12)

- 3 General Winfield Scott elaborated further on his plan to General George McClellan: "We rely greatly on the sure operation of a complete blockade of the Atlantic and Gulf ports soon to commence. In connection with such blockade, we propose a powerful movement down the Mississippi to the ocean, with a cordon of posts at proper points. . . the object being to clear out and keep open this great line of communication in connection with the strict blockade of the seaboard, so as to envelop the insurgent States and bring them to terms with less bloodshed than by any other plan." The heart of the celebrated Anaconda Plan, which would strangle the Confederacy on all sides, was control of the sea and inland waterways by the Union Navy; the strategy of victory was (a) strengthen the blockade, (b) split the Confederacy along the line of the Mississippi River, and (c) support land operations by amphibious assault, gunfire, and transport.  
(CWNC: pg I-12)

- 4 Confederates placed obstructions in the channel between Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island and Fort McRee, to "intimidate and seriously retard any movement [by the Union fleet] to enter [Pensacola, Florida] harbor."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 466)

- 6 Brevet Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, commanding Department of Florida, wrote Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA,



commanding troops in Florida, on violation of "rights and privileges of a flag of truce... [when] a steamer came to the [Fort Pickens] wharf with a flag, in which, besides the bearer, were a number of [Confederate] officers of your command on board, visited one of the ships off this post, and in going and returning instead of keeping in a direct line, coasted along the shore on both sides as close to this fort as safety could. These are gross abuses of the flag, and I trust you will cause them to be immediately corrected."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 408)

Brevet Major William H. French, USA, commanding Key West, Florida, published Brevet Colonel Harvey Brown's [USA] proclamation suspending the writ of habeas corpus, forcing a local militia the "Island Guards" to disband and suppressing the newspaper "Key of the Gulf" because it was "uttering treasonable and threatening language against the judiciary and other United States officers."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 411)

Lieutenant Commander Thomas A. Craven, USN, established blockade of Key West Harbor, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 412)

- 8 Captain Henry A. Adams, U.S.S. **Sabine**, Senior Officer Present off Pensacola, Florida, ordered all "guard-vessels to allow no provisions to enter Pensacola Harbor." Uncertain as to the status of foreign ships and the blockade, Adams denied access of steamers **Judah** and **Le Barron**, and sent them to Mobile, Alabama.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 409)

- 10 George T. Ward, representative from Florida in the Confederate Congress, made an excellent assessment and evaluation of the military situation in Florida for the Confederate Secretary of War, Leroy P. Walker. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 468)

- 13 Official notice to foreign ships of the blockade of Pensacola Harbor by Captain Henry A. Adams, U.S.S. **Sabine**, Senior U.S. Officer Present, given to Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding troops in Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 413)

- 14 Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, commanding troops in Florida, indicated the [Union] blockade to be an "act of aggressive war ... and consider it a virtual acknowledgment of our [Confederate] national existence and independence," and closed Pensacola Harbor to all U.S. vessels.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 413)

- 18 Schooner **J. N. Genin** arrived at Fort Pickens, Florida with

three columbiads [type of cannon] and munitions.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 414)

- 20 **U.S.S. Crusader**, Lieutenant Thomas A. Craven, captured **Neptune** near Fort Taylor, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg I-14)

- 21-22 Confederates, while moving the dry-dock from the Pensacola Navy Yard, encountered strong wind conditions and sank it less than a mile from Batteries Lincoln and Cameron at Fort Pickens, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 419-420)

- 22 Council of War assembled at Fort Pickens, Florida, under the command of Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, for opinions on the condition of affairs at the fort. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part I, pg 145-146)

Map of Pensacola Harbor showing distances from Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island to respective Confederate batteries.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 421)

Map of Fort Pickens and distances to  
Confed Batteries  
22 May 1861

- 25 **U.S.S. Niagara**, Captain William W. McKean, noticed all foreign ships off Pensacola, Florida, that the blockade would be rigidly enforced.  
(PHCW: Vol 6, pg 116)
- 29 Confederate capitol moved to Richmond, Virginia.

22 MAY 1861

NAVY YARD  
MARINE BARRACKS  
WASHINGTON CHURCH  
MARINE HOSPITAL  
BARRANCAS BARRACKS  
FT. BARRANCAS BATTERY  
BATTERY  
LIGHT HOUSE  
FOUR HEAVY GUNS  
BATTERY LINCOLN  
BATTERY CAMERON  
BATTERY STAFF  
BATTERY OF 2 10 INCH COLUMBIADS  
50 YARDS  
Distances in straight line are measured in feet. Ft. Mifflin. Battery Lincoln. Battery Cameron. Battery Staff.

Distance in straight line are measured in Feet	Polyma
" " dotted "	Ball-up Curren
" " double "	Boothey Line

- 30 U.S.S. **Suwannee** arrived Fort Pickens from Key West, Florida with reinforcements.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 424)

JUNE

- 1 Captain Hartstene, South Carolina Navy, while in Tampa, Florida, "on a visit ... examining the harbor and steamers there ... tried [but failed] to negotiate for the [steamer] **Salvor**."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 430)
- 5 Fortification of St. Marks, Florida, begun.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 431)
- 8 U.S.S. **Mississippi**, Rear Admiral William Mervine, commanding Gulf Blockading Squadron set blockade at Key West, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg I-16; WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 429)
- 9 U.S.S. **Massachusetts**, Commander Melancton Smith, captured British blockade runner **Perthshire** with cargo of cotton near Pensacola, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg I-16)
- 12 U.S.S. **Star of the South**, U.S.S. **South Carolina**, and U.S.S. **Massachusetts** arrived Fort Pickens, Florida, with supplies and war materiel.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 429)
- 13 U.S.S. **Mississippi**, Flag Officer William Mervine, captured schooner **Forest King** at Key West.  
(CWNC: pg I-16)
- 22 Confederates sank a dredging boat and brig in the channel across from Fort Pickens, and having built a "large floating battery ... at Pensacola, brought it down in pieces to the Navy Yard," to be reassembled.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 432)
- 24 U.S.S. **Illinois** arrived Fort Pickens with twenty-eight Dahlgren 9-inch guns with implements and ammunition, but "not one article [could] be advantageously used ..." so they were sent to Tortugas.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 433)
- 26 Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, commanding District of Florida reported armament at Fort Pickens and men needed to perform its duties. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 434-435)

*Table of armament of Fort Pickens and its batteries, the number of officers and enlisted men required to perform its duties, and the number for duty at the post.*

Guns	Officers		Enlisted men
	Maximum	Minimum	Three reliefs
<i>Fort Pickens</i>			
Five 10-inch columbiads	—	—	105
Two 42-pounder guns, smooth-bore	—	—	42
Seven 42-pounder, rifled	25	15	141
Four 32-pounder guns, smooth	—	—	84
Two 8-inch howitzers	—	—	42
<i>Battery Scott.</i>			
Two 10-inch sea-coast mortars	2	1	30
Two 10-inch columbiads	3	2	48
One 42-pounder rifled gun	2	1	25
<i>Battery Cameron.</i>			
Two 10-inch columbiads	2	1	48
<i>Battery Lincoln.</i>			
Four 8-inch howitzers	3	2	96
Two 10-inch sea-coast mortars	2	1	20
One 42-pounder rifled gun	2	1	24
<i>Glacis of Bastion E.</i>			
One 10-inch columbiad	3	2	30
Required to man and supply the guns	44	26	735
General staff	4	4	8
Post staff	2	2	6
Medical staff	3	3	12
Engineers, sappers and miners	5	5	50
Ordnance	2	2	40
Guards, orderlies, teamsters, & c	—	—	30
Grand total	60	42	881
At the post—officers, field and staff	16	16	—
Officers and enlisted men for duty, with guns and post	13	13	591
	29	29	591
Deficiency	31	13	290

- 27 Blockade Strategy Board met under the chairmanship of Captain Samuel F. Du Pont and included Commander Charles H. Davis, USN, Major John G. Barnard, USA Corps of Engineers, and Professor Alexander D. Bache, Superintendent U.S. Coast Survey, to consider and report on the major problems of the blockade and to plan amphibious operations to seize vital bases on the Southern coast.  
(CWNC: pg I-17)
- 28 Captain Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, Chairman of the Blockade Strategy Board, wrote: "The order we received....set forth....the selection of two ports, one in South Carolina, another in the confines of Georgia and Florida, for coal depots....its seems impossible to supply the blockading fleet with coal without these depots."  
(CWNC: pg I-18)
- 30 Florida Governor Madison S. Perry complied with Confederate War Department request "to furnish 1,000 men as the quota of the State in the army of reserve, and to place them in a camp of instruction." Four companies were raised and "assembled at Fernandina, called a battalion of artillery, and put into the Confederate service, under command of Mr. Daniel P. Holland as lieutenant colonel, with Mr. Charles F. Hopkins as major."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 291)

#### JULY

- 3 Battery Lincoln overlooking Pensacola Harbor, outside Fort Pickens, finished and armed.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 435)
- 5 Captain Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, reported conference results on the necessity of occupying two or more points on the Atlantic Coast, for coal and supply depots, with Fernandina, Florida, being particularly mentioned. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 64-66)
- 21 Confederate victory at Manassas (Bull Run), Virginia. McDowell (U) v. Beauregard/Johnston (C).
- 25 Confederate privateer Dixie captured American schooner Mary Alice off the east coast of Florida.  
(CWNC: pg I-20)

# AUGUST

- 5     **U.S.S. Jamestown**, Commander Charles Green, chased bark **Alvarado** ashore near Fernandina, Florida. After an unsuccessful attempt to save the vessel, he ordered her burned to prevent recapture. Cargo included wool, sheep and goat skins, old copper and iron, and crude medicines. The **Alvarado**, a Confederate prize vessel captured by Captain Louis M. Coxetter, of the privateer **Jefferson Davis** [also **Jeff. Davis**] on 21 July, was seeking harbor. Confederate guns at Fort Clinch, Amelia Island, Florida, were of no consequence. Note: The account in the War of the Rebellion indicates the ship was the **U.S.S. Vincennes**, not the **U.S.S. Jamestown**. (CWNC: pg I-21, VI-256; WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 348)
- 10    Confederate fortifications under construction at St. Vincent's Island, for defense of St. Josephs Bay and Apalachicola, Florida. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 472-473)
- 12    Colonel William S. Dilworth, CSA, Third Regiment Florida Volunteers, commanding and headquartered at Fort Clinch, reported placement of six companies of infantry on Amelia Island, two at the mouth of the St. Johns River, and two at St. Augustine, and that the Union fleet was in sight every day, "one supposed to be the **U.S.S. Vincennes**, having burned a prize [the **Alvarado**] within a mile and a half of the shore." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 1, pg 471)
- 16    President Lincoln declared the inhabitants of the Confederate States to be in a state of insurrection and forbade all commercial intercourse with them. (CWNC: pg I-22)
- 16-18     Confederate privateer **Jefferson Davis** or **Jeff Davis**, Captain Louis M. Coxetter, arrived off St. Augustine, Florida, but had to wait two days for a half-gale to blow over. On going in she grounded and even jettisoning the starboard guns did not save the brig; only stores and small arms were saved ending a very successful cruise. (CWNC: pg I-22; pg VI-256)
- MID   Confederate schooner **Aid**, previously captured by boat expedition from **U.S.S. Niagara**, Captain William W. McKean, off Mobile, Alabama, 5 June, sunk by Union forces to obstruct the pass at the east end of Santa Rosa Island, Florida. (CWNC: pg VI-190)
- 21    Brigadier General John B. Grayson, CSA, assigned to command of the Department of Middle and East Florida, and the coastal defenses of the same. (WOR: Ser I, Vol VI, pg 1, 267)

- 29 U.S.S. R. R. Cuyler, Captain Francis B. Ellison, seized and burned Confederate ship **Finland**, which was prepared to receive a cargo of cotton and run the blockade off Apalachicola, Florida. Schooner **Kate L. Bruce**, also known as **Kate Bruce** and **K. L. Bruce**, sailed under the British flag as a blockade runner from Havana, Cuba, to Apalachicola during 1861 and early 1862.  
(CWNC: pg I-24; pg VI-258)
- 31 U.S.S. **Jamestown**, Commander Charles Green, captured British blockade running schooner **Aigburth** off Florida coast.  
(CWNC: pg I-24)

#### SEPTEMBER

- 1 Report of Brigadier General Braxton Bragg, CSA, Commanding Confederate forces near Pensacola, Florida, indicates 296 officers and 5,088 men present for duty. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 725)
- 2 Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, Commanding Fort Pickens, ordered the U.S. dry dock at Pensacola, Florida, burned.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 665)
- 3 Brigadier General John B. Grayson, CSA, arrived in Florida, and assumed command of the Department of Middle and Eastern Florida and their coastal defenses.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 276)
- 5 Captain Charles A. Gee, CSA, commanding Confederate post on St. Vincent Island, Florida, reported Union fleet had threatened to enter the harbor in light-draft steamers and burn Apalachicola, and requested cannons, primers and powder.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 180)
- 8 Brigadier General John B. Grayson, CSA, arrived in Fernandina, Florida, and reported "as sure as the sun rises, unless



*Abstract from field return of troops of the Confederate States near Pensacola, Fla.,  
commanded by Brig. Gen. Braxton Bragg, on the 1st day of September, 1861.*

Troops.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
1st (Chalmers') Brigade .....	76	1,314	1,761	1,895
2d (Wood's) Brigade .....	81	1,272	2,004	2,177
3d (Tyler's) Brigade .....	81	1,487	1,804	1,922
4th (Jackson's) Brigade .....	52	892	1,096	1,126
Alabama Mounted Rifles .....	2	72	84	101
Walton Guards .....	4	51	55	55
Total .....	296	5,088	6,804	7,276

cannon, powder, etc. be sent to Florida in the next thirty days, she will fall into the hands of the North.... Florida will become a Yankee province unless measures for her relief are promptly made."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 276)

- 10 Nine crew members from one of the Confederate guard boats in Pensacola Harbor, deserted to Fort Pickens, with their boat and arms.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 666)

- 13 **U.S.S. Susquehanna**, Captain John S. Chauncey, captured blockade running British schooner **Argonaut**, with cargo of fish, bound from Nova Scotia to Key West, Florida.

(CWNC: pg I-26)

- 14 In early morning darkness sailors and Marines [100 men] from **U.S.S. Colorado** in four boats, led by Lieutenant John H. Russell, rowed into Pensacola Harbor, and after a brief skirmish, boarded and burned unfinished Confederate privateering schooner **Judah** and spiked guns at Pensacola Navy Yard. No response from Confederate batteries. Union losses: 3 killed, 8 wounded.

(CWNC: pg I-26: WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 437)

#### OCTOBER

- 1 Colonel Edward Hopkins, CSA, with five companies of Confederate militia established headquarters at St. Vincent's Island, Florida, to defend the West Pass entrance to Apalachicola Harbor. This created "insecurity and apprehension" among the citizens of Apalachicola, "leaving them one company of volunteer artillery and two companies of undrilled infantry, with less than 100 invalids and exempts."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 286)

Work underway to finish **C.S.S. Fulton** for launching at Pensacola, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 666)

- 2 Letter from Florida Governor-Elect John Milton to Confederate Secretary of Navy, Stephen R. Mallory, stated the "deplorable conditions" in the State. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 287)

- 7 John Milton inaugurated Governor of Florida, succeeding Governor Madison S. Perry.

- 9 Santa Rosa Island, Florida, First Regiment Florida Volunteers, Colonel J. Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding, in conjunction with other units of a 1,060 man force, under command of Brigadier General Richard H. Anderson, CSA, landed 4 miles

from Fort Pickens, marched down the island in three columns, attacked and partially burned the camps of the Sixth New York Volunteers, Colonel William Wilson, USA, commanding. Under heavy fire from First Artillery they withdrew from the island. Losses: Union 13 killed, 27 wounded, 21 missing. Confederate 18 killed, 39 wounded, 22 prisoners. Colonel Anderson, CSA, reported the "annihilation of Billy Wilson and his whole band of thieves and cut-throats." First Florida Regiment lost 6 killed, 8 wounded, and 12 prisoners.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 299, 439, 443, 462)

- 10-11 Confederate troops at Tampa Bay captured American sloops **William Batty** and **Lyman Dudley**, and 13 prisoners, "with papers from Key West, with license to engage in the fishery on the Florida coast, and supply the Key West market."  
(CWNC: pg I-28, 294)
- 10 Brigadier General E. Kirby Smith, CSA, assigned to command of the Department of Middle and East Florida, to replace dying Brigadier General John B. Grayson. Revoked for reassignment to the Army of the Potomac.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 1, 291, 295)
- 11 **U.S.S. Niagara**, Flag Officer, William W. McKean, Commanding Gulf Squadron, and **U.S.S. Colorado** arrived off Fort Pickens, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 669)
- 12 U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, wrote Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont: "In examining the various points upon the coast, it has been ascertained that Bull's Bay, St. Helena, Port Royal, and Fernandina [Florida], are each and all accessible and desirable points for the purposes indicated [Fleet coaling and supply stations], and the Government has decided to take possession of at least two of them." Coaling and supply depots seized by the Union Navy on the Southern coast allowed blockaders to remain on station for longer periods without returning to Northern navy yards.  
(CWNC: pg I-29)
- 13 **U.S.S. Keystone State**, Commander Gustavus H. Scott, captured Confederate steamer **Salvor**, commanded by James McKay, of Tampa, near the Tortugas Islands with cargo of coffee, cigars, 21,000 stands of arms, 100 boxes of revolvers, 6 rifled cannon and ammunition.  
(CWNC: pg I-29: WOR; Ser I, Vol 6, pg 308)
- 14 Department of Alabama and West Florida constituted, under command of Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 436)
- 15 **U.S.S. Mississippi** arrived off Fort Pickens, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 669)

- 22 Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, assigned to command of the Department of Middle and East Florida, with orders to "do everything that your means and energies will permit to place the coast of Florida in a state of defense."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 1, 292)

Official designation of Confederate forces at and near Pensacola, Florida, The "Army of Pensacola" under the command of Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 754)

- 25 **U.S.S. Rhode Island**, Lieutenant Stephen D. Trenchard, captured schooner **Aristides** off Charlotte Harbor, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg I-30)

- 26 The Department of the Middle and Eastern Florida extended west to Choctawhatchee River.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 297)

- 31 Florida Governor John Milton requested and received authorization to "remove the guns and other munitions of war from St. Vincent's Island to Apalachicola."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 304)

Florida Governor John Milton requested Georgia Governor Joseph E. Brown, to concur with his request of Confederate President Jefferson Davis and Secretary of War Walker in the "establishment a military department, to be composed of several counties in Georgia, Alabama, and Florida, lying on or near the Chattahoochee River: In Florida: Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison, Liberty, Washington, Jackson, Calhoun, and Franklin."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 304)

Report of Department of Florida, Colonel Harvey Brown, Fifth US Artillery, Commanding, for month of October, indicated 52 officers and 1,380 men present for duty at Forts Pickens, Jefferson and Taylor, and Camp Brown [Santa Rosa Island]. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 672)

*Abstract from return of the Department of Florida, Col. Harvey Brown,  
Fifth U.S. Artillery, commanding, for the month of October, 1861.*

Stations.	Present for duty.			Memoranda.				
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate killed or missing in action.	Aggregate wounded in action.	Prisoners of war.		Pieces of field artillery.
						Officers.	Men.	
Fort Pickens, Fla. ....	21	709	833	4	20	1	8	—
Camp Brown, Santa Rosa Island	12	243	370	10	9	—	13	—
Total in Pensacola Harbor .....	33	952	1,203	14	29	1	21	—
Fort Jefferson, Fla. ....	10	238	330	—	—	—	—	—
Fort Taylor, Fla. ....	9	190	273	—	—	—	—	4
	52	1,380	1,806	14	29	1	21	4

## NOVEMBER

- 5 The sea coasts of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida, were constituted a Department, under the command of General Robert E. Lee, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I. Vol 6, pg 309)
- 6 Provisional President Jefferson Davis elected to a six-year term as President of the Confederate States of America.
- 7 Union captured Port Royal on South Carolina coast.  
  
Confederate commissioners James M. Mason, emissary to England, and John Slidell to France, seized from British ship *Trent* by U.S.S. *San Jacinto*, Captain Charles Wilkes.
- 8 General Robert E. Lee, CSA, assumed command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida.  
(WOR: Ser. I, Vol 6, pg 1)
- 12 General Robert E. Lee, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida, urged Colonel William Scott Dilworth, CSA, commanding at Fernandina, Florida, to complete the batteries and armament at Fernandina, and advised him that "the enemy's fleet is now on this coast, and may visit your coast at any time."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 187)
- 14 Confederate troops and munitions removed from St. Vincent's Island, Florida, to Apalachicola, and the works destroyed.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 319)
- 15 U.S.S. *Dale*, Commander Edward M. Yard, captured British schooner *Mabel* east of Jacksonville, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg I-37)
- 17 U.S.S. *Connecticut*, Commander Maxwell Woodhull, captured British schooner *Adeline*, loaded with military stores and supplies off Cape Canaveral, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg I-37)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, ordered Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, on being relieved by Brigadier General R. S. Ripley, CSA, to proceed to Fernandina, Florida, take command under existing War Department orders and make use of all means for the defense of Cumberland Sound, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 323)

- 17-21 General Robert E. Lee, CSA, inspected batteries and posts along coast from Charleston, South Carolina, to Fernandina, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 327)

- 22-23 Two days of combined bombardment commenced at 9:30 A.M. from **U.S.S. Niagara**, Flag Officer William W. McKean, **U.S.S. Richmond**, Captain Francis B. Ellison, Fort Pickens and its sand batteries against Confederate defenses at Fort McRee, the Pensacola Navy Yard, and the town of Warrington, terminating with damage to Confederate positions and to **U.S.S. Richmond**. Confederate side-wheel steamer **Naefie**, (or **Neaffie**), under command of Major Lovell, CSA, sustained some damage during the action off Fort Pickens, but managed to escape. Losses: Union: 1 killed, 6 wounded. Confederate: 2 killed; 21 wounded. Also 6 men suffocated when a defective magazine, "badly planned and constructed" accidentally collapsed. (CWNC: pg I-37, VI-275; WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 469-471, 490, 495)

- 24 Confederate forces engaged in building batteries on Oak Island, Deer or Town Point, and at mouth of Big Lagoon, all near Fort Pickens, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 674)

- 28 Confederates fired on small boat from the Union fleet attempting to enter Pensacola Harbor.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 772)

- 30 **U.S.S. Wanderer**, Lieutenant James H. Spotts, captured blockade running British schooner **Telegraph** near Indian Key, Florida.

(CWNC: pg I-38)

#### DECEMBER

- 9 In response to reports [which proved to be false] that Union troops had landed at St. Marks, Florida, Governor John Milton departed Tallahassee "by railroad, with a company of light artillery and one of infantry, with the aid of other troops near the place, to repel the invasion."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 341)

Brigadier General Adley H. Gladden, CSA in temporary command of the Army of Pensacola, at and in the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida.

(PHCW:, Vol 10, pg 256)

- 11 **U.S.S. Bienville**, Commander Charles Steedman, captured schooner **Sarah** and **Caroline** off St. Johns River, Florida.

(CWNC: pg I-39)

- 12 Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and Eastern Florida, reported the regiments, battalions, and companies of Florida Volunteers mustered into Confederate service and on duty in the Department:

Third Regiment, Fourth Regiment, First Battalion Infantry [six companies], First Battalion Cavalry [eight companies], company of infantry, Grayson Artillery, Marion Light Artillery, six companies of mounted men.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 212)

- 14 Union fleet landed about 1,000 men on Santa Rosa Island, near Fort Pickens.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 782)
- 17 Joint Resolution of the Florida Legislature expressed the "sentiments of the people of Florida toward the Confederate Government and her armies in the field." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 199-200)
- 18 Apalachicola, Florida, Brigadier General Richard F. Floyd, CSA, commanding, [relieved Colonel Hopkins] reported "612 men, rank and file, including the two dragoon companies."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 354, 355)
- 26 Confederate commissioners James M. Mason and John Slidell, seized 8 November, released on decision of President Lincoln's cabinet.
- 31 Monthly report of Department of Middle and East Florida, commanded by Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, indicated 195 officers and 3,323 men, present for duty. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 364)



*Abstract from monthly report of the Department of Middle and East Florida, commanded by  
Brig. Gen. James H. Trapier, for December, 1861.*

Troops.	Present for duty.		Aggregate Present	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
1st Florida Special Battalion Infantry .....	23	386	455	511
3rd Regiment Florida Volunteers .....	44	800	889	950
4th Regiment Florida Volunteers .....	39	664	823	881
24th Regiment Mississippi Volunteers .....	40	409	614	932
Coast-guard on board steamer General Grayson .....	—	—	45	45
Battalion of cavalry .....	28	628	674	701
Hopkins' independent troop .....	4	61	68	80
Owens' independent troop .....	3	93	105	116
Pickett's independent troop .....	3	70	73	74
Turner's independent troop .....	4	90	95	95
Baya's company of artillery .....	4	62	66	66
Martin's light battery .....	3	60	65	76
Grand total .....	195	3,323	3,972	4,527

*Abstract from return of the Department of Florida. Col. Harvey Brown.  
Fifth U.S. Artillery, commanding, for month of December, 1861.*

Stations.	Troops.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present
		Officers.	Men.	
<b>Santa Rosa Island:</b>				
Fort Pickens .....	Detachments 1st and 2d Artillery and 3d Infantry .....	19	568	704
Camp Lincoln .....	6th New York Infantry .....	13	228	474
Camp Seward .....	75th New York Infantry .....	32	711	829
Fort Jefferson .....	Detachments 1st Artillery and 6th New York Infantry .....	10	307	347
Fort Taylor .....	Detachments 1st Artillery, and 1st Infantry .....	6	209	261
	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>2,023</b>	<b>2,615</b>

Report of Department of Florida, Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, Fifth US Artillery, Commanding, indicated 80 officers and 2,023 men present for duty. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 675)

**1862**

**JANUARY**

- 1 Upon appearance of a small steamer at the navy yard, Colonel Harvey Brown, USA, viewing such "as bravado, or as done with an intention of drawing fire" ordered her fired on. Confederate batteries returned fire and a general bombardment commenced from Fort Pickens of Forts McRee and Barrancas, and the navy yard. "A large and valuable store-house, with considerable property, in the navy-yard, was destroyed."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 436, 496-498)
- 3 Florida Governor John Milton wrote a detailed letter to Confederate Secretary of War, Judah P. Benjamin, on the lack of defenses for Florida and presented his views as to the most efficient and least expensive manner to defend the State. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 206-209)
- 9 Orders from the U.S. Navy Department appointed Flag Officer David Glasgow Farragut to command Western Gulf Blockading Squadron, flagship U.S.S. Hartford. The bounds of the command extended from West Florida to the Rio Grande.  
(CWNC: pg II-5)
- 11 The Department of Key West, Florida, under the command of

Brigadier General John M. Brannon, USA, constituted a separate department from that of the Department of Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 1)

- 12 Confederate Secretary of War, Judah P. Benjamin, responded to Florida Governor John Milton's letters of 30 December 1861, and 3 January 1862, and stated "with inferior forces fronting the enemy at almost every point on the frontier, as well as on the coast of South Carolina, Alabama, and Georgia, I am compelled to send every weapon I can secure to aid in actual conflict; and glad as I would be to furnish arms at any exposed point, I must give preference to points actually attacked over those that are only exposed to attack. If the enemy should appear on your soil all our efforts would be directed to your defense. Till then I am forced to abstain from diverting any portion of our limited means from our sister States actually invaded."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 213)
- 16 Gunfire and boat crews, including Marines, from U.S.S. **Hatteras**, Commander George F. Emmons, destroyed a Confederate battery, seven small vessels loaded with cotton and turpentine ready to run the blockade, a railroad depot, several flat cars, and wharf of the Florida Railroad, which had its Gulf terminus at this point, and the telegraph office at Cedar Keys, Florida. After a brief skirmish, a small, "sort of police force" detachment, a lieutenant and 22 men, belonging to the Fourth Regiment Florida Volunteers, was taken prisoner while attempting to escape [8 escaped].  
(CWNC: pg II-7; WOR Ser I, Vol 6, pg 76)
- 17 General Robert E. Lee's orders to Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, commanding in Florida, illustrated the growing impact of the Union blockade: "Arrangements have been made for running into Mosquito Inlet, on the east coast of Florida, arms and ammunition, by means of small fast steamers. The department considers it necessary that a least two moderate sized guns be placed at New Smyrna, to protect the landing in the event of our steamers being chased by the enemy's gunboats....The cargoes of the steamers are so valuable and vitally important, that no precaution should be omitted."  
(CWNC: pg II-8; WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 370)
- U.S.S. Connecticut**, Commander Maxwell Woodhull, captured blockade running British schooner **Emma** off the Florida Keys.  
(CWNC: pg II-8)
- 19 **U.S.S. Itasca**, Lieutenant Charles H. B. Caldwell, captured schooner **Lizzie Weston** off Florida en route to Jamaica with a cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg II-8)

- 20 U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, ordered the Gulf Blockading Squadron divided into two squadrons upon the arrival of Flag Officer David G. Farragut at Key West: Eastern Gulf Blockading Squadron, Flag Officer William W. McKean, and Western Gulf Blockading Squadron, Flag Officer David G. Farragut. Farragut's area of responsibility began on the Florida coast at the mouth of the Choctawhatchee River and extended over the Gulf to the west; McKean's jurisdiction covered the Florida Gulf and east coasts as far as Cape Canaveral and also included Cuba and the Bahamas. (CWNC: pg II-8) The remaining Florida coastal area north of Cape Canaveral on the Atlantic coast came within the jurisdiction of Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont, commanding the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron. (CWNC: pg II-12)
- 21 **U.S.S. Ethan Allen**, Acting Lieutenant William B. Eaton, captured schooner **Olive Branch** bound from Cedar Keys, Florida, to Nassau with cargo of turpentine. (CWNC: pg II-9)
- 23 Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and Eastern Florida, stated why he made Tallahassee his headquarters rather than Fernandina, Florida. (1) It is central, being midway between the eastern and western limits of the military department. (2) It is on the main channel of communications between these limits. (3) It is, in his judgment, the true strategic point in the department, because it is the capital, is situated in the wealthiest portion of the state, is easily assailed from the Gulf coast, and would make a safe base from which to operate against either Georgia or Alabama. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 215)
- 27 Brigadier General Samuel Jones, CSA, assigned to command of the Army of Pensacola. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 436)
- 29 **U.S. Storeship Supply**, Commander George M. Colvocoresses, captured schooner **Stephen Hart** south of Sarasota, Florida, with cargo of arms and munitions. (CWNC: pg II-14)

A preamble and resolution was read, but was not passed, in the Florida Legislature relative to Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and East Florida.

"Whereas it is deemed requisite and necessary by the people of Florida that in the present critical condition of public affairs the volunteer soldiers of the State should be commanded by a general who will share with them the dangers of camp life at an exposed point; and

"Whereas, some 3,000 of our soldiers are at present stationed on Amelia Island, where an attack from the enemy may be and is daily expected; and

"Whereas, Brigadier General James H. Trapier, who has been assigned to the command of such forces, and has seen fit to absent himself almost constantly from said post of danger since he assumed the command assigned him: Therefore

"Be it resolved by the people of Florida in convention assembled, That it be recommended to the Government of the Confederate States to either require Brigadier General Trapier to remain with the soldiers at some threatened and exposed point in the State, or to assign some general to the command who will deem it a duty to remain with said soldiers at such exposed point.

"Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and of these resolutions be signed by the president of this convention and attested by the secretary, and a copy thereof be furnished to Brigadier General James H. Trapier, and also that a copy be forwarded to the Secretary of War of the Confederate States."

General Trapier strongly denounced it and requested to be removed from command of the Department.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 216-217)

- 31 A British memorandum reaching the Confederacy, regarding the effectiveness of the Union blockade and sinking of the stone fleet [ships and barges loaded with rocks sunk to obstruct a river, harbor, etc.] in Charleston harbor, presented the views of various European nations: "About 10 days ago the English foreign office submitted the two following questions to the maritime powers of Europe: First. Is the sinking of the stone fleet....an outrage on civilization? Second. Is the blockade effective....Is it now binding? France....pronounces the destruction of the harbor...."vindictive vandalism"....the blockade to be "ineffective and illegal"....Prussia winds up by declaring the sinking of the stone fleet to be a crime and outrage on civilization....Sardinia agrees with France, but....in even stronger terms.... Austria declares "blockade altogether illegal".... Spain declares blockade...."altogether ineffective"...." On the other hand, Secretary of the Navy Welles strongly maintained that the effectiveness of the blockade did "destroy any pretext on the part of foreign governments to aid the Confederacy."  
(CWNC: pg II-15)

- 31 Monthly report of the Department of Middle and East Florida, commanded by Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, indicated an "aggregate present" of 4,166. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 371)

*Abstract from monthly report of the Department of Middle and East Florida,  
commanded by Brig. Gen. J. H. Trapier, for January, 1862.*

Troops.	Present for duty.						Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Infantry.		Cavalry.		Artillery.			
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
4th Regiment Florida Volunteers .	37	474	—	—	—	—	721	777
3d Regiment Georgia Volunteers .	28	551	—	—	—	—	655	823
24th Regiment Miss. Volunteers .	39	443	—	—	—	—	787	895
Bailey's company of infantry . . . .	4	74	—	—	—	—	78	78
Evans' company of infantry . . . . .	3	80	—	—	—	—	83	84
Simmons' coast-guard . . . . .	4	41	—	—	—	—	45	45
1st Fla. Special Battalion . . . . .	18	331	—	—	—	—	502	577
1st Fla. Cavalry . . . . .	—	—	35	761	—	—	827	867
Hopkins' independent troop . . . . .	—	—	3	76	—	—	81	82
Owens' independent troop . . . . .	—	—	2	75	—	—	99	120
Pickett's independent troop . . . . .	—	—	2	68	—	—	74	74
Turner's independent troop . . . . .	—	—	4	100	—	—	115	115
Baya's compnay of artillery . . . . .	—	—	—	—	3	29	34	67
Martin's light battery . . . . .	—	—	—	—	3	60	65	76
Grand total . . . . .	133	1,994	46	1,080	6	89	4,166	4,680

## FEBRUARY

- 1 Report of Department of Alabama and West Florida, commanded by Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA, indicated 817 officers and 12,031 men present for duty and organization of troops in the Department of Alabama and West Florida. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 819)

- 2 Confederate government requisitioned two and a half war



*Abstract from field return of the Department of Alabama and West Florida,  
commanded by Maj. Gen. Braxton Bragg, February 1, 1862.*

Troops.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
Army of Pensacola, Brig. Gen. Sam. Jones, commanding . . .	377	5,254	6,790	8,150
Army of Mobile, Brig. Gen. J.M. Withers, commanding . . .	440	6,777	9,278	10,056
Grand total . . . . .	817	12,031	16,068	18,206

*Organization of troops in the Department of Alabama and West Florida,  
commanded by Maj. Gen. Braxton Bragg, February 1, 1862.*

*Army of Pensacola.*

Brig. Gen. Sam. Jones, commanding.

1st Alabama.  
17th Alabama.  
1st Florida.  
5th Georgia.  
36th Georgia.  
1st Louisiana.  
5th Mississippi.  
8th Mississippi.  
9th Mississippi.  
10th Mississippi.  
27th Mississippi.  
Independent Alabama mounted companies (2).  
Company Alabama State artillery.  
Robertson's company light artillery.  
Detachment C.S. Marines.

regiments from Florida, twelve from Georgia, and five from South Carolina.

(WOR: Ser I Vol VI, pg 371)

- 5 U.S.S. **Keystone State**, Commander William E. Le Roy, captured British blockade runner **Mars** with cargo of salt off Fernandina, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-17)
- 6 Brigadier General Ulysses S. Grant, USA, captured Fort Henry on Tennessee River.
- 9 Brigadier General Richard F. Floyd, CSA, commanding, Apalachicola, Florida, wrote Florida Governor John Milton "that every effort be made to get a force here for the defense of the place before the 10th of March." The date the local state troops are to be disbanded.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 378)
- 10 Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, commanding the Department of East and Middle Florida, strongly encouraged the defense of Apalachicola, Florida, because "it is a flourishing town of about 3,000 inhabitants, at the mouth of the Apalachicola River, and is the largest exporting and importing port in Florida, and the secure defense of this post and the entrance of this river is no less of vital importance to this town as it is to the plantations in Florida, Alabama, and Georgia which border the banks of the Apalachicola and its tributaries, the Chattahoochee and Flint Rivers, as high up as Columbus, Georgia. This latter town being of great value in a manufacturing point of view..."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 218)
- 14 Sixty-one citizens from Leon, Jefferson, Wakulla, Gadsden and Franklin counties wrote the Florida Senators and Representatives in Richmond, Virginia, and called attention to the "utter defenseless condition of this section, containing so large an amount of wealth in negroes, cotton, stock, provisions, and capital, and [asked their] prompt and immediate attention ..." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 220-221)
- 15 Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA, Commanding Department Alabama and West Florida, offered suggestions to Confederate Secretary of War, Judah P. Benjamin, for future military policy. "Our means and resources are too much scattered.... On the Gulf we should only hold New Orleans, Mobile, and Pensacola; all other points, the whole of Texas and Florida, should be abandoned, and our means there made available for other service."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 826)

- 16 Confederates surrender Fort Donelson, Tennessee to Grant (U).
- 18 U.S.S. Ethan Allen, Acting Lieutenant William B. Eaton, entered Clearwater harbor, Florida, and captured schooner Spitfire and sloops Atlanta and Caroline.  
(CWNC: pg II-23)

Decision made at Confederate War Department and sent to Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA, to withdraw all Confederate forces from Pensacola, Florida, and Mobile, Alabama, sending them to Tennessee.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 828)

- 19 General Robert E. Lee, CSA, Commanding, in response to the letter from Brigadier General Richard F. Floyd (9 Feb and forwarded by Governor Milton) stated "the necessity for additional troops at that point is apparent, and as I have none under my command to send, I have to request that your excellency will transfer into the service of the Confederate States a regiment for the war, if possible, and order it to report to Brigadier General Trapier.... Unless troops can be organized in Florida for its defense, I know not whose they can obtain."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 393)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, frustrated by Confederate inability to cope with the guns of the Union fleet, wrote Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, regarding the defenses of Florida: "In looking at the whole defense of Florida, it becomes important to ascertain what points can probably be held and what points had better be relinquished. The force that the enemy can bring against any position where he can concentrate his floating batteries renders it prudent and proper to withdraw from the islands to the main-land and be prepared to contest his advance into the interior. Where an island offers the best point of defense, and is so connected with the main that its communications cannot be cut off, it may be retained. Otherwise it should be abandoned."  
(CWNC: pg II-24)

- 22 Brigadier General Lewis G. Arnold, USA, assumed command of the Department of Florida, relieving Colonel Harvey Brown, Fifth US Artillery.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 436)

President Jefferson Davis inaugurated President of the Confederate States of America in Richmond, Virginia.

- 23 Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, wrote US Senator James W. Grimes from Iowa, a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs of his departure for continued operations on the South Atlantic Coast: "I am off tomorrow with a large division of

my squadron to complete my work on the lower coast, and if God is with us, in some three weeks I hope to hold everything by and inside or outside blockade from Cape Canaveral, Florida, to Georgetown, S.C."

(CWNC: pg II-26)

Confederates ordered to withdraw from the town of Fernandina and Amelia and Talbot Islands.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 93)

- 24    **U.S.S. Harriet Lane**, Lieutenant Jonathan M. Wainwright, captured schooner **Joanna Ward** off the coast of Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-26)

Due to losses in Tennessee, Confederate Secretary of War, Judah P. Benjamin, requested General Robert E. Lee "to withdraw all forces as are now employed in the defense of the seaboard of Florida, ... and send them to Tennessee... The only troops to be retained in Florida are such as may be necessary to defend the Apalachicola River...."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 398)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, authorized Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, Commanding Middle and East Florida "to retire both from Cumberland and Amelia Islands to the main-land, taking such positions as will best defend the interests of the State."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 399)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, notified Florida Governor John Milton of the authorized withdrawal from the islands, emphasizing this was "the only way, in my opinion, successfully to resist the large force that can be brought against us by the enemy, and to deprive him of the benefit derived from his fleet and heavy floating batteries .... It will be necessary for the citizens of Florida to turn out to a man to defend their homes, and the sooner your excellency can impress upon them this fact, the easier will be its accomplishment. Troops cannot now be drawn from other States for this purpose. Every State is looking to the protection of her own borders and providing the regiments called for by the Secretary of War."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 400)

- 25    **U.S.S. Mohican**, Commander Sylvanus W. Godon, and **U.S.S. Bienville**, Commander Charles Steedman, captured blockade running British schooner **Arrow** off Fernandina, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-27)

Colonel E. Hopkins, CSA, Commanding Fourth Regiment Florida Volunteers, Amelia Island, Florida, ordered to withdraw from Fernandina, and Amelia and Talbot Islands.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 94)

Confederate evacuation of Nashville, Tennessee.

- 26 U.S.S. **Bienville**, Commander Charles Steedman, captured schooner **Alert** off St. Johns, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-27)
- 27 Brigadier General Samuel Jones, CSA, Commanding at Pensacola, ordered to abandon Pensacola, and Deer Point, Florida. The gunboat **Bradford** was used by the Confederates as a storeship at Pensacola in early 1862, and was part of the defense of Deer Point before its evacuation.  
(CWNC: pg VI-206: WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 834-835)

U.S. Congress authorized martial law and suspension of habeas corpus.

- 28 U.S. Navy expedition to Fernandina, Florida, sailed from Wassaw Sound, Southeast of Savannah, Georgia.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 2)

Major General Braxton Bragg CSA, relinquished command of the Department of Alabama and West Florida, to Brigadier General Samuel Jones, CSA.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 836)

#### MARCH

- 2 Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont with a Union fleet, of 20 ships, anchored off Fernandina, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 95)
- 3 Brigadier General Samuel Jones, CSA, assumed command of the Department of Alabama and West Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 836)
- 3-4 Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, commanding joint amphibious expedition to Fernandina, Florida, reported to Secretary of the Navy Welles that he was "in full possession of Cumberland Island and Sound, of Fernandina and Amelia Island, and the river and town of St. Marys." Confederate defenders, Fourth Regiment Florida Volunteers, were in the process of withdrawing heavy guns inland (18 of 33 heavy ordnance taken with them) from the area and offered only token resistance to Du Pont's force. Fort Clinch on Amelia Island, occupied by an armed boat crew from U.S.S. **Ottawa**, had been seized by Confederates at the beginning of the war and was the first fort to be retaken by the Union. Commander Percival Drayton on board **Ottawa** took a moving train under fire near Fernandina, while launches under Commander C. R. P. Rodgers,

**U.S.S. Pawnee**, captured Confederate side-wheel steamer **Darlington** while trying to escape with military wagons, mules and stores. The **Darlington** was transferred to the U.S. Army for use as a transport. Du Pont had only the highest praise for his association with Brigadier General Horatio G. Wright, commanding the brigade of troops on the expedition: "Our plans of action have been matured by mutual consultation, and have been carried into execution by mutual help." The Fernandina operation placed the entire Georgia coast actually in the possession or under the control of the Union Navy. Du Pont wrote U.S. Senator James W. Grimes from Iowa three days later that: "The most curious feature of the operations was the chase of a train of cars by a gunboat for one mile and a half --- two soldiers were killed, the passengers rushed out in the woods...." The expedition was a prime example of Union sea-land mobility and capabilities.

(CWNC: pg II-28; pg VI-218: WOR, Ser I, Vol 6, pg 93)

- 4 **Commander Daniel B. Ridgely, U.S.S. Santiago de Cuba**, reported the capture of sloop **O.K.** off Cedar Keys, Florida, in February. While proceeding to St. Marks, Florida the **O.K.** foundered in heavy seas.

(CWNC: pg II-28)

Major General John C. Pemberton, CSA, assumed command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 2)

- 5 **U.S.S. Water Witch**, Lieutenant Aaron K. Hughes, captured schooner **William Mallory** off St. Andrews Bay, Florida. (CWNC: pg II-29)

Florida Governor John Milton wrote Confederate Secretary of War, Judah P. Benjamin, objecting to General Robert E. Lee's orders to Brigadier General James H. Trapier to withdraw from the islands, [specifically Amelia and Talbot] stating "The effect of the orders is to abandon Middle, East, and South Florida to the mercy or abuse of the Lincoln Government.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 402)

- 6 **U.S.S. Pursuit**, Acting Lieutenant David Cate, captured schooner **Ana Belle** off Apalachicola, Florida.

(CWNC: pg II-29)

Brigadier General Samuel Jones, CSA, reported to Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA, "The people of Pensacola and Mobile and all Alabama and West Florida, are greatly alarmed at the report that this place is to be abandoned to the enemy. I am sorry to say that the report of the intended evacuation reached Pensacola before your first instructions in the matter reached me. It seems impossible to keep any military secrets in this country."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 841)

President Abraham Lincoln proposed gradual emancipation of the slaves to the U.S. Congress.

- 8-9 Colonel Thomas M. Jones, Twenty-seventh Mississippi Infantry, CSA, assigned to command at Pensacola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 437)

Commander C. R. P. Rodgers, U.S.S. **Wabash**, under orders from Rear Admiral Samuel F. Du Pont to recover control of the whole line of seacoast from Georgia to Alabama, sailed into St. Augustine Harbor under a flag of truce. After discussions, the Mayor surrendered Fort Marion [Old Spanish "Castle St. Marcus"]. Because the previous night a party of women had cut down the flagstaff in front of the barracks, the Mayor ordered the Stars and Stripes hoisted over the fort.  
(PHCW:, Vol II, pg 351)

- 9 U.S.S. **Monitor** engaged C.S.S. **Virginia** (formerly U.S.S. **Merrimack**) in the historic first battle of ironclads at Hampton Roads, Virginia.

Eight steam saw mills, together with large quantity of sawed lumber, an iron foundry and work-shops, and a gunboat under construction for the Confederate government, near Jacksonville, Florida, burned to prevent their falling into Union hands.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 414)

- 10 U.S.S. **Ben DeFord** arrived Fernandina, Florida, with quartermasters' and commissary stores.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 244)

Thirteen cannons, and ordnance stores removed from Apalachicola, Florida, and relocated up river to Ricco's Bluff, on the east side of the Apalachicola River, and batteries constructed. Companies of Captains Grace and Attaway, now full, and Captain Gregory's, not yet full, constituted the forces. The telegraph office at Apalachicola closed.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 411-413)

- 11 Landing party from U.S.S. **Wabash**, Commander C. R. P. Rodgers, occupied St. Augustine, Florida, which had been evacuated by Confederate troops in the face of the naval threat, and in keeping with general Confederate strategy to withdraw from indefensible positions along the sea-coast and coastal islands.  
(CWNC: pg II-32)

Two Confederate gunboats under construction at the head of

Pensacola Bay burned by an armed force of 100 men, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel W. K. Beard, CSA, First Regiment Florida Volunteers, pursuant to orders from Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding Confederate forces at Pensacola, to prevent their falling into Federal hands in the event of the anticipated move against Pensacola by Union naval forces. (CWNC: pg II-32: WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 893))

- 12 Jacksonville, Florida, occupied without opposition, by landing party from U.S.S. *Ottawa*, U.S.S. *Seneca*, and U.S.S. *Pembina*, under command of Lieutenant Thomas H. Stevens, USA, and six companies of the Fourth New Hampshire. (CWNC: pg II-32; WOR Ser I, Vol 6, pg 100; PHCW: Vol 6, pg 312)
- 13 General Robert E. Lee, CSA, charged with the conduct of military operations in the armies of the Confederacy. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 2)

Colonel William S. Dilworth, CSA, ordered 250 men of the Third Regiment Florida Volunteers to take up positions within 10 miles of Jacksonville, Florida. After receiving eight companies, Colonel Dilworth reevaluated Union strength, convinced he could not attack the city without heavy losses and could easily be driven out by Federal gun-boats, he initiated a plan of annoyances, by attacking pickets, foraging parties, etc. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 131)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, wrote Florida Governor John Milton and suggested "the importance of calling every available man in Florida into the field." In other correspondence General Lee indicated "if an adequate force can be obtained it is my own desire to hold the interior of the State and defend the St. Johns as well as the Apalachicola ..." Pursuant there to Governor Milton issued an order to the militia ... to be held in readiness to be assembled upon a day's notice to take up the line of march wherever and whenever their services might be necessary, and to organize a few companies of rangers or guerrillas to confine the enemy to their boats." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 474: Vol 53, pg 223)

The Army of Pensacola in and near the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida, under the command of Brigadier General Samuel Jones, CSA, was disbanded, with the regiments entering the Army of the Mississippi or assigned for duty elsewhere. (PHCW: Vol 10, pg 256)

- 15 Department of Florida merged into the Department of the South, Major General David Hunter USA, commanding. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 437)



The states of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida constituted into the Department of the South, to be commanded by Major General David Hunter, USA. The Department of Key West under the command of Brigadier General John M. Brannon, USA, now designated the Southern District within the Department of the South.

(WOR: Ser I., Vol 6, pg 2; Ser I, Vol 15, pg 459)

- 16 Brigadier General James H. Trapier, CSA, pursuant to orders from General Robert E. Lee, indicated Florida troops being sent to Tennessee: First Regiment Florida Cavalry, Colonel Davis; Third Regiment Florida Volunteers, Colonel Dilworth, now at Baldwin; Fourth Regiment Florida Volunteers, Colonel Hopkins, now at Sanderson; Fifth Regiment Florida Volunteers, in camp of instructions, not yet fully organized; Martin's light battery, six pieces; Gamble's battery, three pieces, not equipped. Troops remaining in Florida "for service on the Apalachicola river, and for scouts, couriers, etc," are: First Florida Special Battalion, six companies, Major Hopkins; Baya's company of artillery; Dunham's light battery, Owen's troop; Brokaw's troop; Captain C. Smith's company of cavalry; Captain Partridge's company of cavalry; Captain Thigpen's company of cavalry; Captain Smith's company of cavalry; Captain Turner's company of cavalry.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 409-410)

- 19 Due to loss of guns at Fernandina and St. Johns River, and "prejudices excited against General James H. Trapier," CSA, Florida Governor John Milton requested "an immediate change." Colonel William S. Dilworth, CSA, commanding Third Regiment Florida Volunteers in East Florida, was assigned to command of the Department of Florida, and General Trapier reassigned to Alabama.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 412, 413)

Confederate troops ordered to withdraw from St. Augustine, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 411)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, Commanding General, instructed Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, Commanding the Department of East and Middle Florida, that "the defense of the interior of the State and the lines of interior communication should be the subject of your particular attention. The rivers Apalachicola and Saint John's are of primary importance... It is not presumed, from present appearances or from any object likely to be attained, that the enemy will occupy Florida in force. Having these objects in view... will you be able to spare any troops from your command for service in other parts of the Confederacy."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 477)

- 20 Brigadier General T. W. Sherman, USA, commanding Union Expeditionary Corps, at Jacksonville issued a statement "To the People of East Florida" ... [recommending] ... every city, town, and precinct assemble, throw off that sham government which has been forced upon you; swear allegiance to the Constitution of the U.S., and organize your government and elect your officers in the good old way of the past." Pursuant thereto, citizens loyal to the Union met in Jacksonville, Florida, and adopted resolutions embracing the jurisdiction of the United States and disavowing the right of any state to secede. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 251-252)
- 23 Skirmish at Smyrna, (Mosquito Inlet) Florida, between Third Regiment Florida Volunteers, CSA, commanded by Captain Strain, and Lieutenant Chambers, CSA, of Captain Owens' (CSA) independent troop of cavalry, and a landing party of five boats sent to reconnoiter from U.S.S. Penguin, Acting Lieutenant Thomas A. Budd, and U.S.S. Henry Andrew, Acting Master S. W. Mather. Landing party retreated and abandoned their launches. Losses: Union: 7 killed among them Acting Master Mather, and Acting Lieutenant Budd, 3 prisoners, and about 30 wounded. Confederate: none killed or wounded.  
(CWNC: pg II-30: WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 111, 112)
- 24 Colonel William S. Dilworth, CSA, commanding Third Regiment Florida Volunteers, surprised and attacked Union pickets near Jacksonville, Florida. Losses: Union: 2 killed, 1 wounded, and 3 prisoners.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 131,253)
- Captain Tillman Ingram, CSA, commanding the Alachua Rebels, ordered to remove the iron from portions of the Florida Railroad and road leading from Jacksonville to Baldwin.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 225)
- 27 Jacksonville, Florida. Union pickets fired on an approaching party of two negroes, who had escaped from their masters at Lake City, thinking them to be Confederates. Killed one and wounded the other.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 256)
- 27-31 Captain Henry W. Closson, First Artillery, USA, reconnoitered Santa Rosa Island, Florida and shelled a Confederate encampment near the Southeast Pass 40 miles from Fort Pickens.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 437, 500-501)
- 28 Lieutenant Thomas H. Stevens, USN, returned to Jacksonville, Florida, with a launch and cutter from U.S.S. Wabash and steamers U.S.S. Darlington and Ellen after raising the schooner Memphis [previously the America], which had been

found scuttled by the Confederates earlier in the month far up the St. Johns River, Florida. Stevens reported that it was "generally believed she was bought by the rebels for the purpose of carrying [John] Slidell and [James M.] Mason to England." [Confederate commissioners to France and United Kingdom] The **Memphis** was towed to Port Royal, South Carolina, and outfitted for service in the U.S. Navy under her original name, **America**, with Acting Master J. Baker commanding.

(CWNC: pg II-42; pg VI-269)

- 31 Confederate troops being assembled at Six Mile Run, or Creek, to be moved to Three Mile Run, near Jacksonville, Florida, to take up position. Forces included Third and Fourth Florida Regiments, Fifth Davis Cavalry, and the First Florida Battalion.

(WOR: Set I, Vol 6, pg 126)

Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the Department of Alabama and West Florida, ordered to turn over guns "as can be spared" to the Confederate Navy Department, which had been removed from Pensacola, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 293)

#### APRIL

- 2 Federal forces ordered to evacuate Jacksonville, Florida, and directed to re-enforce St. Augustine and Fernandina, "it being the intention to hold permanently [these posts]."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 128)

- 2-7 Captain John W. Pearson. CSA, commanding the Ochlawaha Rangers, departed Lake City, Florida, intending to attack Union forces at Dunn's Lake. Finding no Union forces the company went to Orange Mills and subsequently to Cole's Mills on seeing a Union gun boat two miles below the mill. Two days later Captain Pearson continued to reconnoiter the area east of the St. Johns River, and reported "with a reasonable guerrilla force we can keep them back. I am now a guerrilla in every sense of the word; we neither tell where we stay nor where we are going, nor when we shall return; assemble the company at the sound of a cow's horn." Captain Pearson also reported that "at least three-fourths of the people on the St. Johns River and east of it are aiding and abetting the enemy... It is not safe for a small force to be on the east side of the river; there is great danger of being betrayed...."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 233-234)

- 3 Armed boats from U.S.S. **Mercedita**, Commander Henry S. Stellwagen, and U.S.S. **Sagamore**, Lieutenant Andrew J. Drake, captured Apalachicola, Florida, without resistance and took

pilot boats **Cygnets** and **Mary Olivia**, schooners **New Island**, **Floyd**, and **Rose**, and sloop **Octavia**.  
(CWNC: pg II-42)

4 **U.S.S. Pursuit**, Acting Lieutenant David Cate, captured sloop **LaFayette** at St. Josephs Bay, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg II-45)

6 **U.S.S. Pursuit**, Acting Lieutenant David Cate, captured steamer **Florida** loading cotton at North Bay, head of Bear Creek, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-46: WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 230)

6-7 Union victory at Shiloh, Tennessee. Grant (U) v. A.S. Johnston (C).

7 Major General John C. Pemberton's command, CSA, extended over Middle and Eastern Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 2)

7-8 Captain R. S. Smith, Commanding Marianna Dragoons, ordered to St. Andrews Bay, Florida, to "if possible, recapture steamer **Florida**." Steamer moved to town of St. Andrews and Union forces on seeing approaching Confederate troops "took to their boats" and returned fire once on the steamer. Losses: Union: 4 killed.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 437, 502)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, assigned to command of the Department of Middle and Eastern Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 429)

9 **U.S.S. Ottawa**, Lieutenant Thomas H. Stevens, senior naval officer, **U.S.S. Pembina**, Lieutenant John P. Bankhead, and **U.S.S. Ellen**, Lieutenant William Budd, escorted troop transports **Cosmopolitan** and **Belvidere** out of Jacksonville, Florida, as Union forces evacuated the area. The troops in garrison were the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Regiment, six companies of the Fourth New Hampshire Regiment, and two sections of Hamilton's battery. At Mayport, near the mouth of St. Johns River, a company of the Fourth New Hampshire Regiment, which had been stationed at the batteries at St. Johns Bar previously abandoned by the Confederates, were on-loaded. The **Belvidere** with four companies of the Fourth New Hampshire Regiment proceeded to St. Augustine, and the **Cosmopolitan** with the remaining three companies to Fernandina.  
(CWNC: pg II-47: WOR, Ser I, Vol 6, pg 124-125)

10 Skirmish near Fernandina, Florida. Small party of seven men from Company I, Ninth Maine Regiment, USA, engaged detachment of 40 men from Company F, First Florida Cavalry, Captain Footman, CSA, commanding, at location two and one-half miles

from the railroad bridge which spanned the creek separating Amelia Island from the main-land. Losses: Union: 6 captured, 1 killed. Confederate: no losses or wounded.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 132,133)

Florida Governor John Milton indicated "the department composed of Middle, East, South, and a part of West Florida [was] too large and too much separated for any one brigadier general to perform the duties" and urged President Jefferson Davis to immediately place "an officer of ability and energy in command" in Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 230-232)

- 11 Commander E. Farrand, CSN, reported to Confederate Secretary of the Navy, Stephen R. Mallory, that the destruction on 11 March, of two unfinished gunboats, at the head of Pensacola Bay per order of Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding Pensacola, was unnecessary.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 764)

Brigadier General Richard F. Floyd, CSA, commanding Confederate troops in Florida recommended marshall law in Nassau, Duval, Clay, Putnam, St. Johns, and Volusia Counties, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 233)

- 12 St. Augustine, Florida, put under martial law, by Lieutenant Colonel Louis Bell, USA, Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers, Commanding.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 334)

Confederate Secretary of the Navy, Stephen R. Mallory, communicated the report of Commander E. Farrand, CSN, on the unnecessary burning of the two unfinished gunboats to President Davis, and indicated "so far as he was advised, the destruction of those vessels was uncalled for, and asked that [Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding Pensacola] be called on to report why it was done."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 764)

- 13 Lieutenant William B. Eaton, U.S.S. **Beauregard**, demanded the surrender of the Confederate garrison at Fort Brooke, Tampa Bay, Florida. His demands were refused and Eaton shelled the fort before withdrawing. (CWNC: pg II-50) Note: The schooner **Beauregard** was a Confederate privateer blockade runner of the same name commanded by Captain Gilbert Hay, captured 12 October 1861, in the Bahama Channel by U.S. bark **W. G. Anderson**, Lieutenant William C. Rogers. The prize ship and crew were taken to Key West, Florida, where she was condemned by the Prize Court, sold to the U.S. Navy for \$1,810 on 24 February 1862 and, name unchanged, served in Eastern Gulf Blockading Squadron.

(CWNC: pg VI-204)

- 16 U.S. Congress passed Conscription Act.
- 17 Colonel William S. Dilworth, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and Eastern Florida, at Tallahassee, instructed to "send 1,500 muskets or rifles to Pensacola, Florida, without delay and in preference to all other requisitions."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 302-303)  
  
Florida Governor John Milton indicated surprise to General Robert E. Lee, CSA, of the appointment of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, recommended by the Florida delegation, over Brigadier General Richard F. Floyd, recommended by Governor Milton, to command the Department of Middle and East Florida. He also requested if General Lee thought it was advisable to declare marshall law.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 236-237)
- 18 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, assumed command of the Department of Middle and East Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 1)
- 19 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and East Florida, reported a battery of ten guns erected at Ricco's Bluff, on the Apalachicola River, under the command of Colonel Daniel P. Holland's [CSA] and the First Special Battalion.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 237-238)
- 21 Report of Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, Tallahassee, Florida, listed "the Confederate and State companies raised for the war" from Florida. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 239-240)
- 24 New Orleans, Louisiana, surrendered to Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN.
- 28 Brigadier General John H. Forney, CSA, assigned command of the Department of Alabama and West Florida, relieving Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, who was ordered to report to Major General P. G. T. Beauregard at Corinth, Mississippi.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 437; Ser I, Vol 15, pg 764)
- 30 Report of the Department of East and Middle Florida, Brigadier General Joseph Finegan CSA, commanding, indicated 158 officers and 2,605 men present for duty. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 488)

*Abstract from Monthly Return of the troops of the Department of East and Middle Florida,  
commanded by Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, for April, 1862.*

Troops.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
4th Florida Regiment .....	35	480	592	812
5th Florida Regiment .....	26	440	587	856
6th Florida Regiment .....	31	511	665	782
1st Florida Special Battalion .....	19	152	298	492
Smith's cavalry troop .....	4	67	71	98
Tallahassee (cavalry) .....	1	82	84	94
Saint John's .....	2	35	37	87
Baya's light artillery .....	2	50	59	71
Gamble's light artillery .....	5	74	79	146
Marion Light Artillery .....	4	109	113	113
Milton Light Artillery .....	2	98	112	120
Simmons' coast guard .....	2	35	37	55
Hopkins' independent company .....	2	57	61	78
Turner's independent company .....	4	40	51	62
Captain Chas. .....	4	76	80	80
Captain Du .....	2	50	54	93
Captain Ge .....	4	57	68	84
Captain Owens' company .....	3	95	115	116
Captain Parsons' company .....	3	58	61	71
Captain Smith's company .....	3	39	45	83
<b>Grand total</b> .....	<b>158</b>	<b>2,605</b>	<b>3,269</b>	<b>4,393</b>

**MAY**

- 1 Tallahassee, Florida. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and East Florida, issued an appeal issued to the People of Florida, regarding destruction of cotton on approach of Union forces.

"The commanding general of this military department thinks it his duty to request all persons owning or having the control of cotton within this department to have it so placed that if necessary it may be burned without injury to other property. A confident appeal is made to the patriotic citizens of the State to destroy their cotton on the near approach of the enemy rather than permit it to fall into the hands of the invaders of our country.

"The commanding general will endeavor to protect every portion of his department, but if the means at his command should prove inadequate to repel a large force penetrating the country, he will not hesitate to order the destruction of all the cotton rather than suffer it to pass into the possession of an enemy whose purposes are those of plunder and subjugation. It is not presumed from present appearances or from any object likely to be attained that the enemy will invade Florida in force, but it is thought advisable that our people be prepared for any emergency that may occur."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 488-489)

- 3 U.S.S. R. R. Cuyler, Lieutenant F. Winslow, captured schooner Jane off Tampa Bay, Florida, with cargo including pig lead. (CWNC: pg II-57)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, notified Florida Governor John Milton, that 1,500 arms had been ordered to Pensacola, Florida, and inquired whether 2,500 arms for the troops of Middle and East Florida had been received.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 242-243)



- 6 Tallahassee, Florida. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and East Florida issued an appeal to the People of Florida to bring in private arms to furnish a regiment.

"The commanding general of this department is constrained by the great necessities of the public service to appeal to you for the surrender of a sufficient number of your private arms to furnish one or two of your own regiments now organized and ready for service. Shot-guns, double and single barreled, rifles, and muskets can be rendered available, and will be received, appraised, and receipted for by any Confederate officer in the State, and paid for by the Government. Citizens having in their possession or knowing of the possession by others of any of the arms, accouterments or Government stores landed at New Smyrna are requested to deliver them to some Confederate officer or to give such information as will secure them to the Government.

"The preservation of all which is valuable to you now demands your unwearied devotion to the public interests. The battles on which your rights and liberties depend are to be fought by armed men, and your Government now earnestly exhorts you to place the arms which you have hitherto kept for your own convenience in the hands of our brave soldiers who are destined to meet your enemies on the field of battle.

"Unless you make a generous response to this appeal regiments which might otherwise turn defeat into victory will be compelled to remain unarmed and idle spectators of bloody fields, where your sons and brothers may be perishing for need of their assistance."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 494-495)

- 9 At 11:30 A.M. Confederates commenced destruction of Pensacola Navy Yard at Warrington, Forts Barrancas and McRee overlooking Pensacola Bay. Before withdrawing the C.S.S. *Fulton*, a side-wheeler being refitted, two small steamers the *Mary* and the *Helen*, used as guard boats and transports, and one ironclad under construction on the Escambia River were destroyed. Seeing the fires batteries from Fort Pickens commenced firing. All heavy guns and nearly all small-sized guns were removed, along with flanking howitzers from Fort Barrancas and the redoubt, replacing them with wooden imitations as they were removed. Five companies of Confederate cavalry, Captain F. J. Myers, CSA, commanding, remained behind to report Union movements. Abandonment of the important Pensacola coastal area had been in preparation by the Confederates for months after Flag Officer Andrew H. Foote's successes on the upper Mississippi made redeployment of guns and troops necessary. Flag Officer David G. Farragut's victory at New Orleans precipitated the final evacuation. Colonel Thomas M. Jones, CSA, commanding at Pensacola, reported: "On receiving information that the enemy's gunboats had succeeded in passing the forts below New Orleans with their powerful batteries and

splendid equipments, I came to the conclusion that, with my limited means of defense, reduced, as I have been by the withdrawal of nearly all my heavy guns and ammunition, I could not hold them in check or make even a respectable show of resistance .... On receipt of General Lee's written instruction on the subject, I pushed on the work with renewed vigor, and night and day kept up the removal of guns and valuable property." The steamer **Turel**, of very light draft, previously used by the Confederate Army as a transport between the forts, Navy Yard, and armed positions in the vicinity of Pensacola, now carried stores, machinery and other military cargo up the Escambia River, having been ordered "to cut down trees and place every obstruction possible in the river behind her."

(CWNC: pg II-62, VI-317: WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 660-662)

Major General David Hunter, USA, commanding the Department of the South, ordered the emancipation of slaves in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina, and authorized the arming of all able-bodied negroes in those States. But revoked by President Abraham Lincoln.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 1)

- 10 Pensacola reoccupied by Union army and navy forces. Commander David Dixon Porter, U.S.S. **Harriet Lane**, arrived and assisted in transporting men from Fort Pickens across the bay to take possession of Forts Barrancas and McRee, Barrancas Barracks, and the navy yard. Fort McRee seriously damaged, and Marine Hospital destroyed, and the navy yard in ruin.  
(CWNC: pg II-62: WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 658-664)

- 12 Brigadier General Lewis G. Arnold, USA, commanding, took military possession of Pensacola. Two shots fired at advance guard by some Confederate cavalry hovering about the city. U.S.S. **M. A. Wood**, Master Anthony Chase, USN, the first vessel to enter harbor since the attack on Fort Sumter. U.S.S. **Vincennes** arrived Pensacola Harbor.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 6, pg 659)

- MID Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and East Florida, under orders from Florida Governor John Milton, retained 2,500 arms for use of Florida troops, rather than relinquish them to the Confederate agent sent to collect the arms. The large supply of arms had been brought in by a blockade runner to Smyrna, Florida. [See 3 MAY]  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 245)

- 20 Captain H. T. Blocker, CSA, commanding Beauregard Rangers, from Camp Gladden, Wakulla County, with 33 men arrived at Crooked River, Florida, set up ambush on Carr's Hill upon seeing a landing party of 21 men leaving a blockading vessel

at the mouth of the river. Losses: Union: 17 killed or wounded.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 17)

Chattahoochee, Florida. W. R. Boggs, Chief Engineer State of Georgia, reported after "reconnaissance of the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers with reference to obstructions and defenses." He recommended placing obstructions in the Apalachicola River at Fort Gadsden. He further indicated the guns at Fort Gadsden were "too light for use .... but might answer some purpose as they are in compelling the enemy to run the gauntlet" and requested "two 8-inch columbiads, with carriages, platforms, etc." for the fort.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 506)

- 21 Tallahassee, Florida. Report of number of troops in Department East and Middle Florida "[mustered in for the war] after the Fourth Regiment Florida Volunteers leaves for Corinth, [Mississippi] as follows:  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 512)

INSERT CHART FROM "WOR" PG 512  
Ser I, Vol 14

- 22 Key West, Florida. Brigadier General John M. Brannan, USA, Commanding Southern District, Department of the South, on request from Major General Benjamin F. Butler, USA, commanding the Department of the Gulf, to send two regiments to New Orleans, indicated in a letter to Lieutenant E. W. Smith, USA, "The organization of the Department of Key West was ... for a specific purpose, against an unexpected attack from a great naval power; and I know the Government did not expect either Key West [Fort Taylor], or Fort Jefferson [Tortugas] to be

*The number of troops in this department (mustered in for the war) after the Fourth Regiment Florida Volunteers leaves for Corinth, as follows:*

Regiment.	Arms.	Aggregate.	Remarks.
Fifth Regiment Florida Volunteers .....	Two-thirds armed .....	1,150	Stationed at Camp Lee, near Tallahassee.
Sixth Regiment Florida Volunteers .....	Fully armed .....	1,100	Stationed on the Chattahoochee River.
Seventh Regiment Florida Volunteers .....	Four-fifths armed .....	1,100	Ordered to Jacksonville to relieve the Fourth Regiment, under orders for Corinth.
First Regiment Rifles .....	No arms .....	1,000	Captain Amaker, under authority from the War Department, has the full number of companies for the war, which will include a few independent companies that have been filled up. Field officers will be elected at an early day.
First Special Battalion .....	Fully armed .....	600	Stationed at Ricco's Bluff.
Three Batteries light artillery ..	Six field pieces to each company. ....	450	One on the Chattahoochee: one near Tallahassee; one near Jacksonville.
Eight companies cavalry .....	Partly armed .....	700	Stationed at different points on the coast.
Three companies six months Missouri Volunteers. ....	Partly armed .....	250	Now being reorganized for the war.
		6,350	

weakened by the removal permanently of any large number of troops."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 344)

- 24 U.S. bark **Amanda**, Acting Lieutenant Nathaniel Goodwin, and U.S. brig **Bainbridge**, Commander Thomas M. Brasher, captured steamer **Swan** off Key West, Florida, west of Tortugas with cargo of cotton and resin. **Swan** was later used by the U.S. Army.

(CWNC: pg II-66; pg VI-308)

- 27 Major General John C. Pemberton, CSA, Commanding Department of South Carolina and Georgia, referred W. R. Boggs' report on obstructing the Apalachicola River at Fort Gadsden and request for two 8-inch columbiads, to the Confederate Secretary of War.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 507)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, wrote Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and East Florida, and objected to the retaining of 2,500 arms from the supply of arms at Smyrna. [See 3 and MID MAY]

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 245)

- 28 Major General John C. Pemberton, CSA, Commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida, authorized by Confederate Secretary of War "to change the position of the Ricco's Bluff batteries [on the Apalachicola River] if found necessary." Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, Commanding Department of East and Middle Florida, sent copy of correspondence.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 522)

- 31 Report of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Department of East and Middle Florida, indicated 3,790 men present for duty in infantry, cavalry, and artillery. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 530)

*Abstract from Monthly Return of the troops of the Military Department of East and Middle Florida, commanded by Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, for May, 1862.*

Troops.	Present for duty.						Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Infantry.		Cavalry.		Artillery.			
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
5th Regiment Florida Volunteers .	29	615	—	—	—	—	800	1,051
6th Regiment Florida Volunteers .	31	347	—	—	—	—	749	998
1st Special Battalion . . . . .	22	340	—	—	—	—	423	545
Fifteen separate companies of infantry . . . . .	46	1,003	—	—	—	—	1,137	1,359
Four separate companies of cavalry . . . . .	—	—	10	254	—	—	296	385
Three separate companies of artillery . . . . .	—	—	—	—	14	306	385	489
Grand total . . . . .	128	2,305	10	254	14	306	3,790	4,827

31-JUNE 1            Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks) near Richmond, Virginia. Major General Robert E. Lee, CSA, assumed command of the Army of Northern Virginia.

#### JUNE

- 1     Major General John C. Pemberton, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida, indicated he preferred the Fort Gadsden, Florida, site over the Ricco's Bluff battery on the Apalachicola River. He had no guns to spare.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 531)
- 2     Eleven men in two boats under Acting Master Samuel Curtis from U.S.S. **Kingfisher**, while on an expedition up the Aucilla River, Florida, to obtain fresh water, were surprised and attacked by Confederate troops. Losses: Union: 2 killed, 9 prisoners.  
(CWNC: pg II-68)
- 4     W. R. Boggs, Georgia Engineer, reported the work to place obstructions in the Apalachicola River and build gun batteries at Fort Gadsden, Florida, did not happen because "planters in that district ... failed to furnish the necessary labor to carry on the work and it being impracticable to obtain it otherwise." Major General John C. Pemberton, CSA, forwarded report to the War Department.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 542-543)
- 5     Confederate steamer **Havana** burned in Deadman's Bay, Florida, to prevent her capture by U.S.S. **Esilda**, tender to U.S.S. **Somerset**, Lieutenant Earl English.  
(CWNC: pg II-68)
- 6     Confederates evacuated Memphis, Tennessee.
- 7     Tallahassee, Florida, regarding Ricco's Bluff. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Department East and Middle Florida, reported not receiving "any guns from Pensacola to place in battery on the Apalachicola River. .... erecting a battery of seven guns at Alum Bluff, between Ricco's Bluff and Chattahoochee.... moved the two 32-pounder rifle cannon from Ricco's Bluff for service on the St. Johns River, and put two 18-pounders in their place."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 553)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and Eastern Florida, reported the departure of the Fourth Regiment Florida Volunteers from Chattahoochee for Columbus, Georgia. The Sixth Florida Regiment and eight companies of the Seventh Florida Regiment

to depart for Chattanooga, Tennessee, and two companies of the Seventh Florida Regiment, at Tampa Bay, would follow to Tennessee as soon as possible.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 321-322)

- 13 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and East Florida, filed report compiled by Captain E. C. Simkins, CSA, Assistant Quartermaster, on the disposition of all arms at Smyrna, Florida. [See 3, MID and 27 MAY] See Chart and Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 247-250)

- 14 Acting on information from secret agents that a Confederate cavalry force of 100 men were in Milton, Florida, Brigadier General Lewis G. Arnold, USA, ordered Lieutenant Colonel Michael Cassidy, USA, commanding four companies of the Sixth Regiment New York Volunteers [220 men], one Naval officer and forty sailors, and one Marine officer and seventeen marines with three launches from the U.S.S. Vincennes, Lieutenant Commander John Madigan, Jr., USN, to embark on the steamer General Meigs and depart Pensacola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 108-109)



*Report of the arms landed at Smyrna 13 June 1862.*

By whom received.	Boxes.	Guns.	Remarks.
Captain Cuyler, chief of ordnance, Savannah .....	332	6,791	1 box, 11 guns, 1-80, 2-60, 1-40
A.B. Noyes, special agent .....	59	1,169	1 box, 9 guns.
Captain Buckman, chief of ordnance, Department of Middle and Eastern Florida. ....	—	407	
Seventh Regiment Florida Volunteers .....	—	552	
General Pyles' Florida militia .....	—	28	
Captain Cone, commanding volunteer company .....	—	8	
Captain Owens, Marion Dragoons .....	—	120	
Lieutenant Hopkins, commanding detachment .....	—	19	
Captain Baya, Grayson Artillery .....	—	55	
Captain Stephens, Saint John's Rangers .....	—	100	
Captain Bird, Company E, Third Florida Regiment .....	—	32	
Captain Strain, Company H, Third Florida Regiment .....	—	24	
Captain Phillips .....	—	101	
Colonel Davis, First Regiment Florida Cavalry .....	—	180	
Major Barnwell, commanding Smyrna detachment .....	—	154	
Total number of guns received at Smyrna .....	—	9,740	

- 15 Lieutenant Colonel Michael Cassidy, USA, commanding with an expedition force from Pensacola, on the steamer **General Meigs** ran aground at Bagdad, Florida. The troops disembarked in scows and were towed ashore by the three boats from the **U.S.S. Vincennes**. The force departed Bagdad and arrived at Milton, Florida at 2:00 A.M. Finding only a small portion of the reported Confederate cavalry, they departed after a brief skirmish. The expedition departed Milton, returning to Pensacola with three Confederate cavalry prisoners, three citizens of Milton and two negroes. One soldier wounded. It was learned that the Confederate force had "divided into several predatory bands for the purpose of arresting deserters ... and loyal Union citizens, and driving off cattle to feed the rebel force at Bluff Springs and Pollard, Florida."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 108-110)

**U.S.S. Tahoma**, Lieutenant John C. Howell, and **U.S.S. Somerset**, Lieutenant Earl English, crossed the bar of St. Marks River, Florida, and shelled the fort and lighthouse. The picket guard stationed there withdrew, and the sailors landed destroyed the battery, and burned wood-work of the lighthouse, the keeper's house, and all buildings on the beach. At Tallahassee, Florida, Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Department of East and Middle Florida, ordered Seventh Regiment Florida Volunteers to Tallahassee, until he could "ascertain the design of the enemy....also ordered Dunham's artillery and the First Special Battalion from the [St. Marks] river."

(CWNC: pg II-69: WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 41, 566)

- 16 **U.S.S. Somerset**, Lieutenant Earl English, captured blockade running schooner **Curlew** off Cedar Keys, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-70)
- 20 **U.S.S. Beauregard**, Acting Master David Stearns, seized blockade running British schooner **Lucy** off Deadman's Point Bay, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-71)
- 25 Skirmish near Pensacola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 1)

Military Department Number 2, under the command of Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA, included Military Department Number 1, with its eastern boundary extended to the line of railroad from Chattanooga via Atlanta to West Point, on the Chattahoochee River, and thence down the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers to the Gulf of Mexico.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 766)

- 26-JULY 2 Peninsula Campaign (Seven Days Battle), Major General Robert E. Lee, CSA, drove Major General George B.

McClellan, USA, back from Richmond, Virginia

- 29 The Confederate Department of Alabama and West Florida discontinued.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 1)
- 30 Flag Officer Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, ordered U.S.S. **South Carolina**, Commander John J. Almy, to join U.S.S. **Wyandotte** in blockading Mosquito Inlet near New Smyrna, Florida. The inlet had become increasingly important to the Confederates as an unloading point for blockade runners bringing arms from Nassau.  
(CWNC: pg II-75)
- 30-JULY 1 Union gun-boat commanded by Captain Drake, USN, anchored off Tampa, Florida, launched a boat with a lieutenant and 20 men, under a flag of truce. Captain J. W. Pearson, CSA, Osceola Rangers, commanding Tampa, with 18 men confronted the launch and refused to surrender Tampa. Bombardment commenced at 6:00 PM, and the Confederates returned fire. Firing stopped at 7:00 PM. Bombardment resumed the next morning at 10:00 A.M. and stopped at noon. At 2:00 P.M. after firing two more rounds, the Union vessel departed.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 111-112)

#### JULY

- 2 The District of the Gulf, under the command of Brigadier General John H. Forney, CSA, included all the country east of the Pearl River, Alabama, to the Apalachicola River, Florida, and as far north as the thirty-second parallel of latitude.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 771)
- 12 President Abraham Lincoln failed to persuade border states to accept plan for gradual emancipation of slaves.
- 18 Military Department Number 2, under the command of Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA, extended to embrace the States of Mississippi, Alabama, East Louisiana, and that part of Florida west of the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 784)
- Steamboat **Creole** [Saint Mary's] arrived Pensacola, Florida, from New Orleans, the Department of the Gulf, upon request by Brigadier General Lewis G. Arnold, USA, commanding Western District, Department of the South, for a river steamboat to meet "the requirements of the public service" Pensacola Harbor.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 526)
- 22 President Abraham Lincoln read a draft of the emancipation

proclamation to his cabinet.

- 23-AUGUST 4            Formal Confederate requests for British and French recognition made.
- 24    **U.S.S. Quaker City**, Commander James M. Frailey, captured blockade runner **Orion** at Campeche Bank, south of Key West, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-88)
- 31    Report of Department of the South, Major General David Hunter, USA, commanding, indicated 546 officers and 12,747 men present for duty, and organization of troops. Note: This is the first indication that there was a Union garrison, under command of Lieutenant H. Farrand, USA, First New York Engineers, Company E, and 64 men, at Fort Old Town, Florida. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 367-368)

*Abstract from Return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. David Hunter,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for July 31, 1862.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
Fernandina, Fla. ....	22	650	829	889
Fort Clinch, Fla. ....	1	69	82	92
Fort Old Town, Fla. ....	1	64	71	85
Saint Augustine, Fla. ....	17	465	633	656
Key West, Fla. ....	20	355	458	458
Fort Jefferson, Fla. ....	13	222	252	252
Pensacola Harbor, Fla. ....	99	2,192	2,699	2,804
Total .....	173	4,017	5,024	5,236

*Organization of troops in the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. David Hunter,  
U.S. Army, commanding, July 31, 1862.*

**PENSACOLA HARBOR, FLA.**

Brig. Gen. L.G. Arnold.

6th New York, Col. William Wilson.  
75th New York, Col. J.A. Dodge.  
91st New York, Col. J. Van Zandt.

1st U.S. Artillery, Batteries A, F, and L.  
2d U.S. Artillery, Batteries C and K.

**MISCELLANEOUS POSTS.**

*Fernandina, Fla.*  
9th Maine, Col. R. Rich.  
*Fort Clinch, Fla.*  
1st New York Engineers, Company C. Capt. J.E. Place.  
*Fort Jefferson, Fla.*  
90th New York (four companies), Lieut. Col. L.W. Tinelli.  
*Fort Old Town, Fla.*  
1st New York Engineers, Company E, Lieut. H. Farrand.

*Fort Taylor, Key West, Fla.*  
91st New York (two cos.), Maj. C.G. Clark  
*Key West Barracks, Fla.*  
90th New York (four cos.), Col. J.S. Morgan.  
*Saint Augustine, Fla.*  
4th New Hampshire (seven companies), Col. Louis Bell.

## AUGUST

- 5 Florida Governor John Milton, reported to Confederate Secretary of War, George W. Randolph, the Confederate troop situation in Florida, positions held by Federal forces, and the sudden removal of the Fiftieth and Eighth Infantry Regiments from the state which had been told they would be retained for local defense. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 336-338)

- 7 Captain Alexander N. Shipley, USA, commanding, Companies A and B Sixth Regiment New York Volunteers, [140 men], and two officers and eight men from Porter's mortar fleet, departed Pensacola, Florida, embarked on a steamer for a reconnoissances expedition from Pensacola to Bagdad and Milton, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 126-127)

- 8 Captain Alexander N. Shipley, USA, commanding, reconnoissance expedition from Pensacola, arrived at Hunt's Mill north of Bagdad. After receiving information about a "large quantity of naval stores and ... the sails and rigging of a rebel gunboat" they started for Milton, Florida. He steamed up the Blackwater River to Union Hill, removed four Union families, then returned to Milton and removed naval stores "stolen from this [Pensacola] navy-yard." Returned to Bagdad.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 127)

West Florida detached from the Department of the South and annexed to the Department of the Gulf, under the command of Major General Benjamin F. Butler, USA, headquarters at New Orleans, per his desire to have Pensacola within his area of command.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 2: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 544, 547)

- 9 Captain Alexander N. Shipley, USA, commanding a reconnoissance expedition to Bagdad and Milton, returned to Pensacola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 127)

Captain Alexander N. Shipley, USA, commanding Companies H and K, Ninety First New York Volunteers [195 men], and 14 other men, embarked on a steamer and departed Pensacola, Florida, on a reconnoissance expedition to Bagdad to search for naval stores.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 128)

- 10 Captain Alexander N. Shipley, USA, commanding reconnoissance expedition departed Bagdad at daylight, steamed up the

Blackwater River, to Milton, Florida. After finding the "light house clock, which had been stolen at the outbreak of the rebellion from the light-house at this [Pensacola Navy Yard] place" he departed stopping at Hunt's Mill before returning to Pensacola at 6:30 P.M. No Confederate forces seen during the expedition.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 128)

- 22 Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN, instructed Lieutenant Commander Philip C. Johnson, commanding **U.S.S. Tennessee**, that "you will stop at Pilot Town [Louisiana] and bring Lieutenant McClain Tilton and the Marine guard, together with all the stores you can [to the Pensacola Navy Yard]." Pensacola had been garrisoned by the Marines since 10 May of this year. (CWNC: pg II-93) Rear Admiral Farragut arrived in Pensacola where his crew recuperated and repaired the ships preparatory to attacking Mobile. Farragut remained in Pensacola until mid-November until reports of growing Confederate fortifications on the Mississippi River and other developments drew him back to New Orleans. (CWNC: pg II-109)

- 27 **U.S.S. South Carolina**, Commander John J. Almy, destroyed abandoned schooner **Patriot**, aground near Mosquito Inlet, Florida. (CWNC: pg II-94)

Brigadier General Lewis G. Arnold, USA, commanding Pensacola and the District of West Florida, instructed to send what troops he could spare to the Department of the Gulf, and ordered to New Orleans for consultation with Major General Benjamin F. Butler, commanding the Department of the Gulf. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 555)

- 29-30 Confederate victory at Second Battle of Manassas (Bull Run, Virginia. Pope (U) v. Lee (C).

- 30 **U.S.S. R. R. Cuyler**, Acting Master Simeon N. Freeman, captured schooner **Anne Sophia** at sea east of Jacksonville, Florida. (CWNC: pg II-95)

#### SEPTEMBER

- 1 Major General Ormsby M. Mitchel, USA, assigned to command of the Department of the South. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 2)
- 4-6 General Robert E. Lee, CSA, commanding Army of Northern Virginia, invaded Maryland.
- 5 Brigadier General John M. Brannon USA, temporarily in command of the Department of the South.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 2)

- 8 A landing party from **U.S.S. Kingfisher** destroyed salt works at St. Josephs Bay, Florida, that could produce some 200 bushels a day.  
(CWNC: pg II-97)
- 9 Confederates under command of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, placed six guns at St. Johns Bluff, Florida, overlooking the St. Johns River.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 121)
- 10 **U.S.S. Uncas**, Acting Master Lemuel G. Crane, fired into battery on St. Johns Bluff, Florida. Confederate batteries did not return fire.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 121)
- 11 A landing party from **U.S.S. Sagamore** destroyed salt works at St. Andrews Bay, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-97)
- U.S.S. Patroon**, Acting Master William D. Urann, and **U.S.S. Uncas**, Acting Master Lemuel G. Crane, engaged Confederate batteries at St. Johns Bluff, Florida, for four and one-half hours. Little damage to batteries. **U.S.S. Uncas** suffered damage. Losses: Confederate: 1 killed, 8 wounded.  
(CWNC: pg II-97: WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 121))
- 13 Captain Henry W. Closson, USA, Chief of Artillery, submitted "a report on the means adopted for the defense of Pensacola," Florida, to Brigadier General Lewis G. Arnold, USA, commanding Troops in West Florida. See Appendix for full text. Note: At some point shortly after this date Brigadier General Arnold was relieved by Brigadier General Neal Dow, USA, in command of Pensacola and the District of West Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 569-570)
- 14 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the Department of Middle and Eastern Florida, responded to Florida Governor John Milton's letter dated 5 August to the Confederate Secretary of War, George W. Randolph, on the conditions of troops in Florida. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 350-352)
- 17 **U.S.S. Paul Jones**, **U.S.S. Cimarron**, and three other vessels attacked Confederate batteries on St. Johns Bluff, Florida, for five hours. Losses: Confederate: 2 killed, 3 wounded.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 122: PHCW: Vol 6, pg 316)
- Major General Ormsby M. Mitchel, USA, assumed command of the Department of the South.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 2)



Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg), Maryland, followed by Major General Robert E. Lee's (CSA), withdrawal into Virginia. Lee (C) v. McClellan (U).

- 22 President Lincoln issued Emancipation Proclamation to be effective on 1 January 1863, "That... all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States shall be then, henceforward, and forever free; and the executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 621-623; 667-669)

Alabama Governor John Gill Shorter, requested Confederate War Department assistance [300 mounted men] to protect the salt works on the Florida coast from St. Josephs Bay to the Choctawhatchee Bay from raids by Union blockading fleet.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 354)

- 24 Florida Governor John Milton strongly suggested the establishment of "a military department of portions of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida... [because Brigadier] General Finegan [commander of Department of Middle and Eastern Florida] had no more forces at his command than would be necessary for the defense of East Florida, and if he had enough for the entire department ... it is so extensive ... it would be impossible for him to give the personal attention necessary."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 357-358)

President Abraham Lincoln issued proclamation on suspension of habeas corpus.

- 26 Major General Benjamin F. Butler, USA, commanding Department of the Gulf, chastised Brigadier General Neal Dow, USA, commanding at Pensacola, for detaining the steamer *St. Mary* [Creole] and using it for personal gain by an "expedition for furniture up the Blackwater River .... I cannot permit the shipping of furniture or other articles North by any officer for his own use. Such taking of private property, whether belonging to rebels or others, comes under the order of the War Department, No. 107, a copy of which I send you, and is there denominated 'plundering.'" (WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 584-585) Note: In correspondence dated 1 January 1863, from Brigadier General Neal Dow, USA, commanding at Pensacola, to Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, commanding Department of the Gulf regarding the above furniture, he indicated that soon after he came to Pensacola he was informed "that in the

neighboring town [there] were many houses of rebels abandoned, with all their contents... who had gone into Alabama." He ordered "the furniture of these houses ... brought to Pensacola and distributed among the officers at their quarters and to the hospital." General Benjamin F. Butler ordered them sold at auction, but countermanded the order on the arrival of his relief, Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, and left the matter to his disposal. He advised the furniture to be sold. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 629)

- 29 Tallahassee, Florida. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding, Department of East and Middle Florida, indicated he had put nine companies of infantry, five companies of Partisan Rangers, one regiment of cavalry, and two companies of light artillery in service. That the "troops were stationed from Tampa Bay to St. Andrews Bay on the Gulf, and from Fernandina to St. Johns River on the Atlantic, covering exposed points on the coast."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 614)
- 30 Report of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding, Department East and Middle Florida, indicated 67 officers and 1,305 men present for duty. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 615)

#### OCTOBER

- 1 A joint Army-Navy expedition from Hilton Head, South Carolina, under Commander Charles Steedman, U.S.S. Paul Jones, Flag Ship; U.S.S. Cimarron, Captain Maxwell Woodhull; U.S.S. Water Witch, Lieutenant Commander Austin Pendergrast; U.S.S. Hale, Lieutenant Commander Alfred T. Snell; U.S.S. Uncas, Lieutenant

*Abstract from Monthly Return of the District of East and Middle Florida,  
Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, commanding, for September, 1862.*

Command.	Present for duty.			
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate present	Aggregate present and absent.
First Special Battalion Florida Infantry .....	18	269	383	587
Three independent companies of infantry .....	10	170	212	261
Three companies of Partisan Rangers .....	15	293	422	509
Ten companies of cavalry* .....	20	422	544	681
Two batteries of artillery .....	4	151	163	330
Total .....	67	1,305	1,726	2,368

\* No reports from Harrison's, Rou's, and Dickinson's companies.

Commander Lemuel G. Crane; and **U.S.S. Patroon**, Lieutenant Commander Uran, and Brigadier General John M. Brannon, USA, with 1500 Federal troops arrived Mayport Mills, Florida. General Brannon and some troops disembarked from **U.S. Transports Ben De Ford, Boston, Cosmopolitan, and Neptune**, and established a position at Mount Pleasant Creek. Three Union gunboats reconnoitered further up the St. Johns River, but withdrew after being fired upon by Confederate batteries at St. Johns Bluff.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 127-129: CWNC: pg II-100)

Lieutenant Colonel Charles F. Hopkins, CSA, commanding at St. Johns Bluff Batteries, ordered Captain Joseph L. Dunham, CSA, commanding at Yellow Bluff Batteries on St. Johns River, to "repair to these headquarters with your whole command [and artillery]."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 127-129)

- 2 Union infantry landed at Buckhorn Creek, between Pablo and Mount Pleasant Creeks. Cavalry and artillery unloaded at the head of Mount Pleasant Creek. Skirmishes between Confederates and Union pickets at Mount Pleasant Creek, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 128-129)

Confederates at 9:00 P.M. under command of Lieutenant Colonel Charles F. Hopkins, CSA, hastily evacuated battery at St. Johns Bluff, Florida, leaving guns and ammunition. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Department of East and Middle Florida, arrived at St. Johns Bluff Battery, in the evening, and finding it abandoned, called the evacuation a "gross military blunder, that required investigation."

(WOR: ser I, Vol 14, pg 138-139)

- 3 **U.S.S. Water Witch** approached St. Johns Bluff Battery, found it evacuated, and took possession until it was occupied by General John M. Brannon's troops. Federal gunboats reconnoitered further up the St. Johns River returning the next morning. Commander Charles Steedman, **U.S.S. Paul Jones**, proceeded to Jacksonville, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 127-130)

- 3-4 Union victory at Corinth, Mississippi. Grant, Rosecrans (U) v. Price, Van Doran (C).

- 4 **U.S.S. Somerset**, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, attacked Confederate salt works at Depot Key, Florida. The landing party from Somerset was augmented by a strong force from **U.S.S. Tahoma**, Commander John C. Howell, and the salt works were destroyed.

(CWNC: pg II-101)

- 4-7 Federal forces removed the eight guns from St. Johns Bluff to

the U.S. Transport **Neptune**, and destroyed the battery.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 128-130)

- 5 Brigadier General John M. Brannon, USA, with 785 infantry in U.S. Transport **Ben De Ford**, proceeded up river, passed the abandoned Confederate battery at Yellow Bluff, and occupied Jacksonville, Florida, which had been evacuated by Southern troops. Skirmishes between entering Union troops and retreating Confederates. U.S.S. **Cimarron** fired on Confederate troops.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 130-131, 136)

Florida Governor John Milton notified Confederate Secretary of War, George W. Randolph, of Union movements in East Florida, and emphasized the importance of Florida, by indicating "there is not State where, in proportion to the amount cultivated, such abundant crops of corn, peas, potatoes, and sugar-cane have been made, and which will afford a more abundant supply of pork and beef, than Florida. The enemy are appraised of these facts ... and may make of Florida a waste, howling wilderness, or colonize it with negroes, unless suitable measures for defense shall be promptly adopted." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 258-259)

- 6 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, assigned to the command of East Florida, and Brigadier General John H. Forney, CSA, assigned to the command of West Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 2)

Lieutenant Commander Edward P. Williams, USN, in U.S. Transport **Darlington**, with 25 sailors and 100 troops, and a convoy of gunboats, departed Jacksonville, Florida, up St. Johns River to capture Confederate steamers.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 131)

- 7 Middle and East Florida included in Major General P. G. T. Beauregard's command, CSA, the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida east of the Apalachicola River. The Department of East and Middle Florida constituted a district and Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, ordered to report to Major General P. G. T. Beauregard.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 630, 633)

Lieutenant Commander Edward P. Williams captured Confederate wooden river steamer **Governor Milton** [previously the **G. W. Bird**] in a creek off St. Johns River, approximately two miles above the town of Hawkinsville, Florida. In continuing Union operations in the river, Williams had seized the vessel --- termed by Commander Charles Steedman "one of their best boats" --- which had been used in transporting guns and munitions to St. Johns Bluff.

(CWNC: pg II-102; VI-241: WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 131, 137)

- 8 Battle of Perryville, Kentucky, followed by retreat of Major General Braxton Bragg's [CSA], Confederate army.
- 9 Lieutenant Commander Edward P. Williams, USN, returned to Jacksonville, Florida, with captured Confederate steamer **Governor Milton**. Within two weeks the steamer sent to Hilton Head, South Carolina, for overhaul.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 131, 137)
- 10 Lake City, Florida. Lieutenant Colonel Mitchell CSA, ordered to move the Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Georgia Regiments to Savannah, Georgia, by railroad via Monticello, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 635)

Florida Governor John Milton wrote long letter to President Jefferson Davis, setting out the conditions in Florida and appealed for forces and munitions to defend the state. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 259-261)

- 11 Brigadier General John M. Brannon, USA, embarked on U.S. Army Transport **Boston** and departed Jacksonville, Florida. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 131) Calling Commander Charles Steedman's action "most hearty and energetic," General Brannon reported: "The entire naval force under his command exhibited a zeal and perseverance in every instance, whether in aiding my forces to effect a landing, the ascent of St. Johns River [230 miles], or the assistance to one of my transports [**Cosmopolitan**] unfortunately injured in crossing the bar, that is deserving of all praise." Captain Sylvanus W. Godon, temporarily commanding the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, noted at operation's end: "We retain possession of St. Johns River as far as Jacksonville." Amphibious assaults continued to force Confederate defenses away from the coastal areas.  
(CWNC: pg II-100: WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 131)

Court Of Inquiry into Lieutenant Colonel Charles F. Hopkins, CSA, abandonment of St. Johns Bluff, held at Camp Finegan, Florida, found his actions "wholly justifiable."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 143)

- 14 Tallahassee, Florida. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East and Middle Florida, reported "ten companies of cavalry (not yet organized into a regiment), five companies of Partisan Rangers, nine companies of infantry, and two companies of light artillery.... Sent out of [Florida] in less than ninety days, one regiment of cavalry, six regiments of infantry, two independent companies of cavalry, and one independent company of artillery, all Florida troops."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 638)

- 15 Boat crews from **U.S.S. Fort Henry**, Acting Lieutenant Edward Y. McCauley, reconnoitering Apalachicola River, Florida, captured sloop **G. L. Brockenborough** with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg II-103)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, Commanding General, reported to Florida Governor John Milton "the Florida regiments to be in pretty good state of drill and discipline and constantly improving, but...far from being able to spare them [and wished] men sent to fill them up."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 640)

- 18 Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, Commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida to Apalachicola River, indicated "the completion of the [railroad] from Thomasville to Bainbridge [Georgia]...and the branch from Grovesville [Georgia] to Tallahassee Railroad would add greatly to the military facilities for the defense of Middle Florida, by enabling troops from the interior of Georgia or vicinity of Savannah to be sent rapidly to any point in that part of the State."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 644)

- 27 Brigadier General John M. Brannon, USA, assumed temporary command of the Department of the South, upon the death of Major General Ormsby M. Mitchel, USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 2)

- 28 **U.S.S. Montgomery**, Commander C. Hunter, captured blockade running steamer **Caroline** near Pensacola, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-104)

**U.S.S. Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander George A. Bigelow, captured blockade running British schooner **Trier** off Indian River Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-104)

- 30 Gainesville, Florida. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East and Middle Florida, ordered Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry, to "remove all negroes having no owners with them and free negroes from the St. Johns River into the interior at a safe distance from the enemy."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 661)

#### NOVEMBER

- 3 District of the Gulf, under the command of Brigadier General John H. Forney, CSA, extended to the thirty-third parallel.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 853)

Expedition composed of Colonel Oliver T. Beard, USA, Forty-

eighth New York Volunteers, commanding, Reverend Mansfield French, chaplain, USA, and Captain Trowbridge, USA, with his Company A, First South Carolina Volunteers [black troops], embarked on U.S. Transport **Darlington** proceeded up Bell River, Florida, skirmished with Confederate pickets below Cooper's, destroyed salt works, and all salt, corn, wagons and horses which they did not remove. The expedition then proceeded to Jolly River, destroyed two salt works, with a large amount of salt and corn; and to St. Marys, where after skirmish with Confederate pickets removed two families of contrabands. Brigadier General Rufus Saxton, USA, Military Governor, Department of the South stated two objectives in sending the coastal expedition: "to prove the fighting qualities of the negroes [which some have doubted], and to bring away the people from the main-land, destroy all rebel salt-works, and to break up the rebel picket stations along the line of the coast." He reported "in every point of view the expedition was a perfect success. Rarely in the progress of this war has so much mischief been done by so small a force in so short a space of time.... It is admitted upon all hands the negroes fought with a coolness and bravery that would have done credit to veteran soldiers.... They seemed like men who were fighting to vindicate their manhood and they did it well."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 189-192)

- 4 U.S.S. **Hale**, Captain Alfred T. Snell, captured pilot boat **Wave** and an unnamed schooner in Nassau Sound, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-108)

Major General P.G.T Beauregard's command, CSA, the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, extended to include Departments of East and Middle Florida; "the former to comprise that part of Florida east of the Suwannee River; the latter west of the Suwannee River to the Choctawhatchee River." Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, assigned to command the Department of East Florida, headquarters at Lake City, Florida, and commander in command of the Department of Middle Florida headquarters at Quincy, Florida. Florida west of the Choctawhatchee River remained in the Department of Alabama and West Florida, and was called the District of the Gulf.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 665)

Joint letter from Governors of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida, to President Davis, requested "formation of a new military department," composed of... [certain counties in each state, the ones in Florida being] Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison, Liberty, Washington, Jackson, Calhoun, and Franklin. Because "it is almost impossible for [Brigadier] General John H. Forney, constantly engaged ... before Mobile, to give the proper attention to the counties in his department lying on



the Apalachicola River, 200 miles to the east of him, and unconnected by railroad or telegraph; and it is equally impossible for [Brigadier] General [Joseph] Finegan ... in East and South Florida, to give the needed protection to the counties of Middle Florida about the same distance to the west of him. .. We call your ... attention to the fact that [this area] is in imminent danger of being overrun ... very soon, he being induced thereto by its present defenseless condition, and its vast wealth in cotton, slaves, cattle, hogs, corn, etc. and embracing ... the important city of Columbus, in Georgia, and the capital of Florida, besides [the salt-works all along the] the extensive seaboard. To raise the required troops they requested authorization "to call for six-months' volunteers, from among those not subject to conscription and those subject to conscription between the ages of thirty-five and forty-five years."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 717)

- 7 President Jefferson Davis answered Florida Governor John Milton's letter asking for forces and munitions to defend the state. [See 10 OCT] See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 266)

- 8 Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, assigned to the command the Department of the Gulf, to relieve Major General Benjamin F. Butler, USA.

(WOR: Ser I. Vol 15, pg 590)

- 11 Brigadier General H. Cobb, CSA, assigned to command Department of Middle Florida, extending from the Suwannee to the Choctawatchee River, headquarters at Quincy, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 677)

**U.S.S. Kensington**, Acting Master Frederick Crocker, captured schooner **Course** off the Florida coast.

(CWNC: pg II-108)

Florida Governor John Milton in a letter to President Jefferson Davis on the subject of obstructions proposed for the Apalachicola River, stated this "would be the destruction of Apalachicola as a commercial port for the prosperity of Columbus, Georgia ... Florida will submit gracefully to any sacrifice necessary to the high purposes of the Confederacy, but will resist to the bitter end speculation and speculation for the benefit of other localities by the sacrifice of the rights of the State." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 267-268)

- 11-12 British government rejected Napoleon III's plan for joint British-French-Russian mediation of Civil War.

- 12 **U.S.S. Kensington**, Acting Master Frederick Crocker, captured

British blockade runner **Maria** off the Florida coast.  
(CWNC: pg II-108)

Governors John Milton, Florida, and J. Gill Shorter, Alabama, along with Major General John H. Forney, CSA, commanding the District of the Gulf, expressed desires to Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, that two companies Florida cavalry, stationed on the Apalachicola River near Dead Lake, and on St. Andrews Bay, at the head of the Northern Arm, and the infantry company at town of St. Andrews not be transferred from the District of the Gulf to the District of East and Middle Florida, as ordered by Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 680)

- 18 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, ordered to remain in command of the District of East and Middle Florida, until arrival of Brigadier General H. Cobb, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 684)
- 20 **U.S.S. Montgomery**, Commander C. Hunter, captured sloop **William E. Chester** near Pensacola Bay, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg II-110)
- 21 Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, suggested to Brigadier General H. Cobb, CSA, on his assuming command of the Middle District of Florida, "our means [for] the defense of my Department [South Carolina and Georgia and Florida to the Chattahoochee] are very limited, so much so that I am unable to spare one man from South Carolina and Georgia for Florida at present, but I hope after the fall campaign in Virginia troops will be sent for the defense of my department. Meanwhile, we must do the best we can by calling on the State authorities for all the assistance they can furnish us. I think .... it would be advisable to draw up a concise statement of [your command's] exact defensive condition and resources for the files of this department. General [Joseph] Finegan will do the same for his own district [East Florida]."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 684)
- 22 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East and Middle Florida, indicated: "the mayor of Columbus, [Georgia], [was] arranging to obstruct the Apalachicola River below our batteries at Alum Bluff... [Florida] Governor Milton protests against the obstructions being placed in the river, unless done under direction of the proper military authorities of the Confederate States."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 686: Vol 53, pg 267)
- 24 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East and Middle Florida, indicated: "Governor Milton

...[withdrew] any objection he may have had to the obstructions of the Apalachicola River, having ascertained that the work was to be done under direction of a Government engineer. Captain [Theodore] Moreno ... is now progressing with the work." Captain Moreno, CSA, was the chief engineer for Florida within the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, commanded by Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, and the officer in charge of the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola River obstructions by order of the Confederate War Department.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 687,695)

**U.S.S. Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, captured two British blockade runners, schooner **Agnes** and sloop **Ellen**, in Indian River, Florida.

(CWNC: pg II-111)

- 26 Confederate War Department informed Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, that "the chief object of [Brigadier General H. Cobb's] assignment [to command the District of Middle Florida] besides the protection to be given to Tallahassee, is the defense of the Chattahoochee, Flint, and Apalachicola Rivers against the approaches of the enemy by means of their boats.... Although the order restricts the limits of this department to Middle Florida, it is nevertheless contemplated that the instructions to General Cobb should give him a wider discretion, so that his observations and duties may embrace the navigable waters of the Chattahoochee and Flint Rivers."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 688)

- 30 Report of the Districts of East and Middle Florida, Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding, indicated 69 officers and 1,337 men present for duty. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 695)

*Abstract from Monthly Return of the Districts of East and Middle Florida,  
Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan commanding, for November, 1862.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
1st Special Battalion Florida Infantry (4 companies) .....	15	299	358	418
Three independent companies of infantry .....	6	168	206	276
Three companies of Partisan Rangers .....	11	119	172	267
Nine companies of cavalry and Dunham's battery* .....	35	636	758	1,035
Gamble's battery .....	2	115	121	164
Total .....	69	1,337	1,615	2,160

\* Dunham's artillery company is included with Bird's, Stewart's, Chambers', and Stephens' cavalry companies; but there is no way of determining its strength, and therefore all five companies are reported as cavalry.

## DECEMBER

- 1     **U.S.S. Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, captured blockade running British schooner **By George** off Indian River, Florida, with cargo including coffee and salt.  
(CWNC: pg II-112)
  
- 3     Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, on the way to assume command of the District of Middle Florida, wrote to the Confederate War Department and Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding The Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, on "the condition of the defenses of Middle Florida. The great apprehension ... in Southwestern Georgia, [and] the upper portion of Middle Florida, has been from the enemy coming up the Apalachicola River and thence up the Flint and Chattahoochee; hence ... efforts have been directed to the defenses of these rivers, and particularly the Apalachicola. I think ... the arrangements made for putting obstructions in the Apalachicola are ample... But to my mind the point of danger is in a direction which either has not been looked at, or at all events is not guarded against.... The movement of the enemy will not, in my opinion, be up the Apalachicola, but ... either to land at Shell Point, about the mouth of the Ocklockonnee, to move on St. Marks [Florida], or else going directly to St. Marks [which is in a defenseless condition], land their forces, march upon Tallahassee, and thence to the Apalachicola River; or, leaving Tallahassee to the right [East], go directly to the river. Attacking in the rear our batteries on the river they must fall.... and then the removal of the obstructions and the free passage of the river is simply a question of time. With the Apalachicola River and the country which they will have possession of in carrying out these movements, not only Middle Florida but Southwestern Georgia must be lost. The importance of holding Southwestern Georgia cannot be overestimated. It is the only section of [Georgia] which was blessed with good crops this year [1862] and is now looked to for supplies both of corn and bacon.... [The] force now in Middle Florida consists of five companies of infantry, one of cavalry, one Partisan Ranger, and one battery of artillery, in all not amounting to 700 effective men."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 696-698)
  
- 4     Colonel Caraway Smith, Second Florida Cavalry, CSA, assigned to "command the coast defenses from Deadman's Bay west to

included Dickinson Bay; his headquarters to be near Camp Leon."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 699)

- 9 Tallahassee, Florida. Brigadier Generals Howell Cobb, [Middle] and Joseph Finegan, [East] CSA, assumed command of their respective districts.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 702)

Tallahassee, Florida. Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding District of Middle Florida, wrote Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, on "the importance of defending this portion of the country" [140 miles, from Suwannee to Choctawhatchee] emphasizing the "abundant crops of Middle Florida" and Southwest Georgia "has made [this area] the main source from which provision supplies must be obtained ... not only for the army, but indeed the people of the interior and upper counties [of Georgia].... Another fact worthy of consideration is the amount of salt now being produced on the coast of this district... now a daily production of 2,000 bushels.

"In reference to Florida, I deem it proper to suggest that, in view of her great extent of sea-coast and territory, her small population, and the number of volunteers which she has sent for the general defense to other and distant portions of the country, no additional troops, either conscripts or any other kind, should be withdrawn from the State.

"Though a small State, Florida has done her full part in furnishing troops for the general defense, and should be permitted to retain within her own limits all who are willing to volunteer into the Confederate service for the defense of the State.

"It is difficult to estimate the number of troops that will be required for the proper defense of [the Middle] district. ...If [Union forces are] confined to raids for the destruction of salt-works and other property immediately upon the coast the numbers would be ... smaller than would be required to repel a more extensive invasion, looking to [take] the capital and an advance into the heart of the State and the southern portions of[Georgia and Alabama].... I think it prudent and wise to have a force of not less than 5,000 men."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 703-704)

Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey, USN, on assuming command of the Eastern Gulf Blockading Squadron, stated: "The outward pressure of our Navy, in barring the enemy's ports, crippling the power, and exhausting the resources of the States in rebellion; in depriving them of a market for their peculiar productions, and of the facilities for importing many vital requisites for the use of their Army and peoples, is slowing, surely, and unostentatiously reducing the rebellion to such

straits as must result in their unconditional submission, even though our gallant Army does not achieve another victory."  
(CWNC: pg II-103)

St. Marks, Florida. Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, reported "on the conditions of defenses [indicating] the narrow and difficult channel of the St. Marks River, with the obstructions placed in it, renders the approach of the enemy up that river almost impracticable. The fact that no important result would be accomplished by them in taking St. Marks renders such an approach very unlikely.

"The defenses ...are in a very unsatisfactory condition. There is a small vessel there, under the command of Lieutenant McGary, [CSN], with armament of three guns ... in good order, but both on account of the character of the boats and the want of men to man them would be of little or no service in resisting any formidable attack.

"The fort at St. Marks has five guns... I should rely very little upon the guns of the fort but for the fact that there is no reason why the enemy should hazard anything to get possession of St. Marks.

"If the enemy should attempt a movement in that quarter I am ... of the opinion that their policy would be to land ... either at Shell Point or the west side of the St. Marks River or at the light-house on the east side, and march into the interior without reference to St. Marks. Indeed if the object was to take St. Marks the best plan would be to attack it in rear..."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 710)

- 10 U.S.S. **Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, captured British schooner **Alicia** attempting to run the blockade out of Indian River, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg II-113)

U.S. transport steamer **M. Sanford** with the One hundred fifty-sixth Regiment New York Volunteers, Colonel Erastus Cooke, USA, commanding, on board with equipment and stores on route from New York grounded upon the Carysfort Reef, off the light from Key West, Florida. Through the efforts of the U.S.S. **Gemsbok**, Captain Cavendy, steamers **City of Bath** and **Blackstone**, Captain Berry, all troops and most of the stores were removed. Colonel Cooke deeming the stranding was the result of criminal negligence, ordered the sailing-master, Captain A. W. Richardson, arrested and taken to Key West.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 608-609)

- 13 Confederate victory at Fredericksburg, Virginia. Lee (C) v. Burnside (U).

- 14 Major General John H. Forney, CSA, relinquished command of the

District of the Gulf to Brigadier General William W. Mackall, CSA.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 899)

Major General Simon B. Buckner, CSA, relieved from duty with the Army of Tennessee and ordered to Mobile to assume command of the District of the Gulf.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 3)

- 15 Apalachicola, Florida. Confederate scout sent by Captain C. Thigpin, CSA, commanding Camp Douglas, Florida, observed three Union gunboats at anchor "at the end of the Strait Channel [2 1/2 miles from town]."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 724, 730)
- 16 Confederate scout with men sent by Captain C. Thigpin, CSA, commanding Camp Douglas, Florida, entered Apalachicola, Florida, saw U.S.S. **Brockenborough**, at the end of the Strait Channel, making way for the city, and anchoring within one mile of the city. Eight launches with 250 men started for the town. The Confederates showed themselves to the enemy and then retired, as per order of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, "not to fire into the enemy from Apalachicola." They reported "three vessels (besides the three gunboats) in the West Pass and one in St. Josephs Bay."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 724, 730)
- 17 Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, assumed command of the Department of the Gulf.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 611)
- 18 Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, answered the 9 December letter of Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, Commanding the District of Middle Florida, stating: "in relation to the suggested danger ... that the enemy may land in force at St. Marks, march via Tallahassee, or by a more direct route to the west of that place, on the Apalachicola River ... it is [my] opinion that the distance and character of the country to be traversed will be found highly unfavorable for such an attempt. To insure success or guard against serious disaster the enemy would be obliged to move in larger force than he can bring to bear for such an enterprise at present.  
"I served myself for several years in Middle Florida, and scouted repeatedly the whole region from St. Marks and the Wakulla River to the Ocklockonnee and along both banks of the latter river... Its banks can only be approached [except through dense hammocks and almost impenetrable morasses] at one or two places from its double mouth to almost the point of crossing beyond Tallahassee. There is no place where an army or considerable force marching from St. Marks and leaving



Tallahassee to the right [East], whether moving up the west bank of the Wakulla or passing around its head, can effect a passage of the Ocklockonnee, except at Jackson's Bluff... It was there General [Andrew] Jackson crossed his forces when he penetrated the country... which strike the Apalachicola below the obstructions to be constructed by Captain [Theodore] Moreno.

"Such, too, is the character of the country between St. Marks and the Ocklockonnee and between that stream and the Apalachicola in the winter season that I feel assured it would be found impracticable for any considerable force; while the crossing at Jackson's Bluff would prove [such] a difficult undertaking... that the route by Tallahassee would be resorted to in preference. Any force penetrating by the longer route of Tallahassee must still cross the Ocklockonnee...at a point generally if not always unfordable...

"Any force landing at St. Marks or Port Leon must necessarily have with it its own means of transportation; for as soon as a descent on the coasts should be made... as to indicate such an expedition nothing were easier than for you to cause the timely removal beyond the reach of the enemy of all the means of transportation of the planters in Middle Florida. In this way a delay would ensue, during which all the defensive resources of Middle Florida and of the adjoining sections of Georgia could be collected for a successful resistance."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 707-709)

- 19 Major A. A. Canova, CSA, appointed chief of subsistence for Florida, by Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 727)

Obstructions sunk at the Narrows, ninety miles below the junction of the Chattahoochee and Flint Rivers.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14. pg 731)

- 22 U.S.S. Huntsville, Acting Lieutenant W. C. Rogers, seized schooner *Courier* off Tortugas with cargo including salt, coffee, sugar, and dry goods. (CWNC: pg II-115)

Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding District of Middle Florida, stopped all mail, newspapers and communications to Apalachicola, Florida, because "through this means the enemy was enable regularly and constantly to communicate not only with Florida, but Georgia and Alabama... newspapers from every part of the Confederate States were regularly carried to Apalachicola, which was in the virtual possession of the enemy, [with] a large portion of whose population disloyal to our Government." On an inspection Cobb reported "of the district between Apalachicola and Choctawhatchee Rivers... there is no reason to apprehend an

invasion or raid of the enemy... beyond the salt-works on St. Andrews Bay. This interest has become an extensive and important one. It has already attracted [Union] attention, and two efforts have recently been made by them to break up these works.... [because he] found the few troops there stationed too far from the coast to render timely aid, [he] changed them to more convenient posts, and ... concentrated the operation in the salt-works within narrower territorial limits."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 730-731)

Tallahassee, Florida. Florida Legislature authorized the organization of salt-workers for their own defense, and "contrary to [Brigadier General Howell Cobb's request, did not] pass any law for the organization of the militia of the State to meet a [pending Union invasion]."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 731)

Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding District of Middle Florida, requested that "the gunboat C.S.S. **Chattahoochee**, under the command of Lieutenant Jones, now effectually stopped from going to sea by the sinking of ... obstructions, [at the Narrows, about 90 miles below the junction of the Chattahoochee and Flint Rivers] be ordered down to the obstructions for their protection until the batteries can be completed... The obstructions in the Narrows constitute... the main defense of the river."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 729)

Captain Joseph John Williams, CSA, examined the country lying between the St. Marks and Suwannee Rivers, and reported "the following points are the only ones at which the enemy could make a practical landing for the purposes of invasion: Old Port Leon, on the St. Marks River, the St. Marks Light-House, Deadman's Bay [Steinhatchee], and the mouth or landings on the Suwannee River." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 752)

- 23 Major General Simon B. Buckner, CSA, assumed command of the District of the Gulf, relieving Brigadier General William W. Mackall, CSA.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 905)

- 24 Lieutenant Steward, USA, commanding 25 men from Ninety-first New York Volunteers departed Pensacola, Florida, to seize Confederate steamer **Bloomer** in the Choctawhatchee River. At East Pass, Acting Master Elias D. Bruner, of the blockading schooner U.S.S. **Charlotte**, joined the expedition to seize a schooner lying near the steamer.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 629)

- 25 Lieutenant Stewart, USA, left the expedition under his command

- sent from Pensacola, Florida, to seize the steamer **Bloomer** in the Choctawhatchee River, and with a guide proceeded to the Choctawhatchee, captured the **Bloomer**, hauled it into the middle of the river, expecting to be attacked by guerrillas, and waited for the expedition.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 629)
- 26 Ninety-first New York Volunteers with Acting Master Elias D. Bruner, **U.S.S. Charlotte**. Lieutenant Stewart, USA, commanding expedition proceeded with captured Confederate steamer **Bloomer** to Pensacola, Florida. Acting Master Elias D. Bruner declined to take the schooner in the river next to the **Bloomer**, stating there was not time.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 629)
- 27 **U.S.S. Magnolia**, Acting Master Charles Potter, captured British schooner **Carmita** northwest of Marquesas Keys, Florida, attempting to run the blockade.  
(CWNC: pg II-116)
- U.S.S. Roebuck**, Master John Sherrill, captured British schooner **Kate** attempting to run into St. Marks River, Florida, with cargo of salt, coffee, copper, and liquor.  
(CWNC: pg II-116)
- 28 Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida approved and forwarded to Confederate Secretary Navy, Stephen R. Mallory, Brigadier General Howell Cobb's request for the Confederate gunboat **Chattahoochee** be ordered down from Columbus, Georgia, to defend obstructions in Apalachicola River until batteries at the Narrows and Rock Bluff are completed.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 736)
- 29 **U.S.S. Magnolia**, Acting Master Charles Potter, seized blockade running British sloop **Flying Fish** off Tortugas.  
(CWNC: pg II-116)
- 30 Report of troops for the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, commanded by Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, indicated 2,541 men present for duty. See Chart for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol )
- 31 Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding a company of the

*Abstract from Field Return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
commanded by General G. T. Beauregard, December 30, 1862.*

Commanding officer.	Troops.	Present for duty					
		Infantry		Cavalry		Artillery	
		Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
Brig. Gen. J. Finegan . . . .	District of East and Middle Florida . . . . .	46	549	38	759	7	248
Commanding officer.	Troops.	Effective total.		Aggregate present.		Aggregate present and absent.	
Brig. Gen. J. Finegan . . . .	District of East and Middle Florida . . . . .	1,597		1,882		2,541	

Second Florida Cavalry, Palatka, Florida, ordered with a lieutenant and twenty men to proceed "as secretly and expeditiously as possible across the St. Johns River to the vicinity of St. Augustine... to lay in wait... and capture if possible any enemy or wagons going into or coming out of [the city], and ... to prevent communication between the people in the country and the enemy in St. Augustine."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 739)

Reports of Districts of East and Middle Florida, Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding, indicated 38 officers and 780 men present for duty. Report of District of Middle Florida, Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding indicated 33 officers and 740 men present for duty. See Charts for full texts.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 740-741)

Report of the Department of the Gulf, Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, commanding, indicated 84 officers and 1,391 men present for duty at Pensacola, Florida, Brigadier General Neal Dow, USA, commanding. Also, the organization of troops for the District of Pensacola indicated the 28th Connecticut, 15th

*Abstract from Monthly Return of the District of East and Middle Florida,  
Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, commanding, for December, 1862.*

Command.	Present for duty		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
First Special Battalion Florida Infantry, one company .....	3	60	70	82
Four companies of Partisan Rangers* .....	5	105	128	280
Three independent companies of infantry .....	9	162	203	263
Five companies of cavalry .....	16	312	366	466
Dunham's battery .....	5	140	149	158
Total .....	38	780	916	1,249

\* No report from Westcott's company.

*Abstract from Monthly Return of the troops in the District of Middle Florida, commanded  
by Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb, for December, 1862.*

Troops.	Present for duty.						Effective total.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Infantry.		Cavalry.		Artillery.				
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.			
1st Florida Special Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Hopkins . . . . .	20	358	—	—	—	—	359	420	500
2d Florida Cavalry, Colonel Smith . . .	—	—	9	232	—	—	239	271	365
Robinson's Partisan Rangers . . . . .	—	—	2	40	—	—	40	44	86
Gamble's battery . . . . .	—	—	—	—	2	110	110	118	144
Grand total . . . . .	20	358	11	272	2	110	748	853	1,095

*Abstract from Return of the Department of the Gulf, Maj. Gen. N.P. Banks commanding,  
for the month of December, 1862 (headquarters, New Orleans, La.).*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
Pensacola, Fla., Brig, Gen. N. Dow and staff .....	2	—	2	3
Infantry .....	72	1,138	1,726	1,885
Artillery .....	10	253	329	361
Total .....	84	1,391	2,057	2,249

Maine, 7th Vermont and 2nd U.S. Artillery, Batteries H and K.  
See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 627)

31-JANUARY 3      Battle of Murfreesboro (Stone River), Tennessee,  
followed by Major General Braxton Bragg's (CSA) withdrawal.

1863

**JANUARY**

- 1      Emancipation Proclamation ordered and declared in effect in  
"the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof  
respectively are this day in rebellion against the United  
States the following, to wit: .... Florida..."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 667-668)
  - 5      Boat crews from **U.S.S. Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander Earl  
English, seized blockade running British sloop **Avenger** in  
Jupiter Inlet, Florida, with cargo of coffee, gin, salt, baled  
goods.  
(CWNC: pg III-6)
  - 6      **U.S.S. Pocahontas**, Lieutenant Commander William M. Gamble,  
captured blockade runner **Anona** off Cape San Blas, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-6)
  - 8      **U.S.S. Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, seized  
blockade running British sloop **Julia** off Jupiter Inlet,  
Florida, with cargo of salt.  
(CWNC: pg III-7)
- U.S.S. Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes,  
captured blockade runner **Silas Henry**, aground in Tampa Bay,  
Florida, with cargo of cotton.



(CWNC: pg III-7)

- 9 Boat crews from **U.S.S. Ethan Allen**, Acting Master Isaac A. Pennell, destroyed "a very large salt manufactory" south of St. Josephs, Florida. Pennell noted that the works were "capable of making 75 bushels of salt per day" and reported that it was "the fourth salt manufactory I have destroyed since I have been on this station."  
(CWNC: pg III-7)

First Lieutenant of Organized Salt-makers, W. Fisher, reported all salt-makers on the Florida coast between St. Marks and Suwannee Rivers "enrolled and organized into companies, with rules of discipline and appointed places of rendezvous in case of attack." Total of 498 men with "forty-three guns in good condition, and very little ammunition.... 300 of these men [are] under forty years, and many of them deserters from the [Confederate] Army."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 753)

- 10 Colonel James H. Clanton, CSA, had authority from the Confederate War Department "to raise for six months' service a regiment of cavalry ... to be employed in the defense of the coast of Alabama and Florida west of the Apalachicola River."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 940)

- 12 Colonel Joseph R. Hawley, USA, Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, ordered to embark on steamer transport **Delaware**, proceed to Fernandina, Florida, and take command of that post, relieving Lieutenant Colonel Horatio Bisbee, Jr., USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 81)

- 18 **U.S.S. Wachusett**, Real Admiral Charles Wilkes, and **U.S.S. Sonoma**, Commander Thomas H. Stevens, seized steamer **Virginia** off Mugerres Island, Mexico. The **Virginia** was sent to Key West, Florida, for adjudication.  
(CWNC: pg III-12)

- 20 Major General David Hunter, USA, resumed command of the Department of the South, from Brigadier General John M. Brannan, USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 2; Vol 53, pg 82)

- 23 U.S. Army expedition to St. Marys River, Florida and Georgia, departed Beaufort, South Carolina, under command of Colonel T. W. Higginson, USA, with 462 officers and men of First Regiment South Carolina Volunteers [black troops], on board U.S. Army Transports **John Adams**, **Planter**, and **Ben De Ford**. Purpose "to endeavor to obtain a large supply of valuable bricks... at brick yards, 30 miles up the St. Marys, from which Fort Clinch was originally supplied... and to obtain information on rebel [blockade runner] **Berosa**. Both objects accomplished: brought

away bricks and ascertained **Berosa** to be worthless."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 195-196)

- 26 Skirmish at Township, Florida, between Confederate cavalry company under command of Lieutenant Jones, CSA, and a detachment of the First Regiment South Carolina Volunteers [black troops] under the command of Colonel T. W. Higginson, USA. Losses: Union: 1 killed, 7 wounded. Confederate: 12 killed, including Lieutenant Jones.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 195)
- 27-28 Detachment of 250 men Company B, First Regiment South Carolina Volunteers (black troops) on board **U.S. Transport John Adams**, Captain Clifton vessel commander (killed), continually fired on by Confederate on the shore during its transit, 40 miles, up and down the St. Marys River. "The secret of our safety was in keeping the regiment below [deck] except the gunners; but this required the utmost energy ... as the men were wild to come on deck, and even implored to be landed on shore and charge on the enemy." At Woodstock, Florida, a cannon and Confederate flag obtained, and 25 sheep loaded on **John Adams**.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 195-197)
- 28 **U.S.S. Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, captured and destroyed blockade running British sloop **Elizabeth** at the mouth of Jupiter Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-17)
- 29 Colonel Joseph S. Morgan, USA, Ninetieth New York Volunteers, ordered with his command to assume command of the post at Key West, Florida, relieving Colonel Tilghman H. Good, USA, Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers. Lieutenant Colonel George W. Alexander, Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, to remain in command of Fort Jefferson, Tortugas, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 82-83)

## FEBRUARY

- 1 **U.S.S. Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, and **U.S.S. Hendrick Hudson**, Lieutenant David Cate, captured blockade running British schooner **Margaret** off St. Petersburg, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-21)
- 9 U.S. Secretary of Navy, Gideon Welles, informed that the **C.S.S. Chattahoochee** was in the Apalachicola River, "waiting a suitable opportunity to run out, and that there are also other gunboats building up that river within reach of our [Union] light-draught steamers." He proposed to Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, a small joint U.S. Army-Navy expedition to capture or destroy the vessels.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 395)

- 23 Colonel Tilghman H. Good, USA, with six companies Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers ordered to proceed to Key West, Florida and assume command of that post and of the Tortugas.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 84)
- 24 Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey, USN, commanding the East Gulf Blockading Squadron, reported the capture of schooner **Stonewall** by U.S.S. **Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander A. A. Semmes, near Key West, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-34)
- 28 Report of Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, commanding, indicated 708 men for the District of Middle Florida, and 803 men for the District of East Florida, present for duty. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 798)

#### MARCH

- 3 U.S. Congress passed Conscription Act and new Habeas Corpus Act.
- 6 Brigadier General of Volunteers, R. Saxton, USA, sent the First Regiment of South Carolina Volunteers [black troops], Colonel T. W. Higginson, USA, commanding, and portion of the Second Regiment, under Colonel James Montgomery, USA, up the St. Johns River, Florida, with orders to reoccupy Jacksonville, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 423)

*Abstract from Return of Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia,  
and Florida, commanded by General G. T. Beauregard, February 28, 1863.*

Commanding officer.	Troops.	Present for duty.			Aggregate present	Aggregate present and absent.
		Total effective infantry.	Total effective cavalry.	Total effective artillery.		
Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb .....	District of Middle Florida .....	359	239	110	807	1,026
Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan ....	District of East Florida .....	222	441	140	916	1,249
Grand total .....		581	680	250	1,723	2,275

RECAPITULATION OF EFFECTIVES.

District of Middle Florida .....	708
District of East Florida .....	803
Total effective .....	1,511

- 9     Advanced picket guard, Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers, USA, stationed 2 miles north of St. Augustine, Florida, attacked by Confederate company [80 horsemen] commanded by Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry, from their camp, Fort Peyton, 7 miles southwest of city. Lieutenant Colonel Joseph C. Abbott, USA, with Companies B, D, and F [120 men] skirmished with Confederate pickets at Bartols Masters' place, 2 miles from Fort Peyton. Confederates withdrew towards Palatka, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 224-225)
- 10    Five Union gunboats and transports with large force of black troops and white officers arrived and reoccupied Jacksonville, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 227-228)
- U.S.S. Gem of the Sea**, Acting Lieutenant Irvin B. Baxter, captured and destroyed sloop ~~Pete~~ attempting to run the blockade at Indian River Inlet, Florida, with cargo of salt.  
(CWNC: pg III-41)
- 11    Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, Commanding District of East Florida, with detachment of Second Florida Cavalry, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Abner H. McCormick, CSA, on reconnaissance skirmished with Union forces in suburbs of Jacksonville, Florida. Confederates withdrew. Losses: Union: 2 killed, 4 wounded. Confederate: 1 killed, Acting Surgeon Meredith. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 227) Later in the day Major Theodore W. Brevard, commanding First Battalion Partisan Rangers, CSA, on reconnaissance in suburbs, skirmished with a Union company.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 227)
- 13    **U.S.S. Huntsville**, Acting Lieutenant William C. Rogers, seized blockade running British schooner **Surprise** off Charlotte Harbor, Florida, bound for Havana with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-44)

Organization of the troops in the Districts of East and Middle Florida within the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, commanded by Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 824-825)

INSERT OF CHART (WOR SER I, VOL 14, PG 824-25)

### *DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA.*

Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan Commanding.

Company Infantry, Capt. John Bryan.  
Company Infantry, Capt. J.C. Chambers.  
Company Infantry, Capt. S.E. Hope.  
Company Infantry, Capt. J.W. Pearson.  
Company Infantry, Capt. Edwin West.  
Company Second Florida Cavalry, Capt. W.E. Chambers.  
Company Second Florida Cavalry, Capt. F.J. Clark.  
Company Second Florida Cavalry, Capt. J.J. Dickison.  
Company Second Florida Cavalry, Capt. S.F. Rou.  
Company Cavalry, Capt. R. Harrison.  
Company Cavalry, Capt. W. Stephens.  
Company Partisans, Capt. S.W. Mays.  
Company Partisans, Capt. J.Q. Stewart.  
Company Partisans, Capt. John Westcott.  
Company of Rangers, Capt. P.B. Bird.  
Milton (Florida) Light Artillery, Capt. J.L. Dunham.

### *DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA.*

Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb commanding.

First Georgia Regulars, Col. William J. Magill.  
First Florida Battalion Infantry (five companies).  
Second Florida Cavalry (five companies).  
Second Florida Battalion, Partisan Rangers (one company).  
Leon (Florida) Light Artillery, Capt. R.H. Gamble.

- 14 Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, informed Florida Senators that he [could] "spare no troops or guns for Florida so long as enemy threatens in such overwhelming numbers [Charleston] and Savannah. Will do all I can soon as practicable to assist General [Joseph] Finegan, CSA."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 325)
- 16 **U.S.S. Octorara**, Commander Napoleon Collins, seized sloop **Rosalie** and schooner **Five Brothers** with cargo of cotton at sea east of Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-47)
- District of Key West and Tortugas, Florida, Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding, transferred to the Department of the Gulf, commanded by Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 714)
- 17 Lieutenant Colonel Abner H. McCormick, CSA, commanding Confederate forces near Jacksonville, Florida, notified Lieutenant Colonel T. W. Higginson, USA, commanding Jacksonville, to remove the women and children within twenty-four hours.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 839)
- 18 Lieutenant Colonel T. W. Higginson, USA, commanding Jacksonville, Florida, indicated "there has been no restriction upon the passage of women and children across my lines nor will there be, and I shall continue to render assistance with my wagons to such as may wish to remove."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 839)
- 20 **U.S.S. Ethan Allen**, Acting Master Isaac A. Pennell, seized blockade running British schooner **Gypsy** off St. Josephs Bay, Florida, with cargo including merchants' tools.  
(CWNC: pg III-49)

Captain Robinson, CSA, with 21 men encamped at St. Andrews, Florida, surprised 1 officer and 9 men of Union boat crew from **U.S.S. Roebuck**, Acting Master John Sherrill, blockade ship in harbor. Skirmish ensued when they refused to surrender. Losses: Union: 4 killed, 5 wounded, 1 missing. Confederates: no losses or wounded.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 230)

- 21 Report of troops indicated 803 Confederate troops in the District of East Florida, and 1374 troops in the District of Middle Florida, present for duty. See Chart for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 840)

Colonel D. L. Clinch, CSA, commanding forces at Camp Finegan moved cavalry and infantry, and two batteries of artillery, along with Captain Buckman, CSA, in charge of a 32-pounder rifle gun mounted on a railroad platform car, to a hill near Three Mile Branch, overlooking Jacksonville, Florida. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 840-841)

- 23 Colonel John D. Rust, USA, commanding Eighth Regiment Maine Volunteers, on board U.S. Army Transport **Delaware**, and Major Hemingway, USA, with three companies, on board U.S. Transport **General Meigs**, accompanied by U.S.S. **Norwich**, arrived Jacksonville, Florida, from Beaufort, South Carolina. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding, District of East Florida, had ordered Lieutenant T. E. Buckman, CSA, chief of ordnance, assisted by Private Francis Soule, CSA, of Captain Edwin West's (CSA) company, First Special Battalion Florida Volunteers, with a rifled 32-pounder mounted on railroad platform car to proceed within one and one-half miles of Jacksonville, Florida, and commence bombardment. U.S.S. **Norwich**, other gunboats, and Union shore batteries returned fire, forcing the gun-platform to withdraw. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 232-236)

U.S.S. **Arizona**, Acting Lieutenant Daniel P. Upton, took blockade running sloop **Aurelia** off Mosquito Inlet, Florida, with cargo of cotton. (CWNC: pg III-53)

- 24 Lieutenant T. E. Buckman, CSA, with the 32-pounder mounted on



*Abstract from Return of Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia,  
and Florida, commanded by General G.T. Beauregard, March 21, 1863.*

Commanding officer.	District.	Present for duty.			Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
		Total effective infantry.	Total effective cavalry.	Total effective artillery.		
Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb .....	District of Middle Florida .....	731	382	261	1,555	1,993
Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan ...	District of East Florida .....	222	441	140	916	1,249
Grand total .....		953	823	401	2,471	3,242

RECAPITULATION OF EFFECTIVES.

District of Middle Florida .....	1,374
District of East Florida .....	803
Total effective .....	2,177

railroad platform car resumed bombardment of Jacksonville, Florida. But withdrew after Union fire from **U.S.S. Norwich** and shore batteries became to "concentrated and accurate."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 234)

Captain G. W. Scott, CSA, commanding a detachment of 30 men from Company I, Second Florida Cavalry, departed Newport, Florida, to assist Lieutenant H. K. Simmons, CSA, commanding a detachment of Captain W. H. Milton's [CSA] Company G, Second Florida Cavalry, at Roberts' Ferry, Ocklockonnee Bay, Florida, where schooner **Onward** was aground and in Union control. One hour skirmish ensued, then schooner fired, abandoned and Union forces escaped in boats to blockading vessel. Lieutenant J. Tucker, CSA, commanding Company G, Second Florida Cavalry, arrived after the skirmish.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 236-237)

- 25 Union reconnaissance force, under command of Colonel A. H. Higginson, USA, consisting of five companies of Eighth Maine Infantry, four companies Sixth Connecticut, and a portion of Colonel Higginson's black regiment advanced along the railroad about 4 miles from Jacksonville, Florida, and skirmished with forces under command of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, then withdrew to the city.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 233-234)

**U.S.S. Fort Henry**, Acting Lieutenant Edward Y. McCauley, captured blockade running sloop **Ranger**, from Havana, Cuba, off Cedar Keys, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-53)

Colonel James Montgomery, USA, with 120 black troops from his regiment, marched over land to Palatka, Florida, while the **U.S.S. Paul Jones**, Commander Charles Steedman, USN, steamed up the St. Johns River.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol, 14, pg 233, 238)

- 26 Outside Jacksonville, Florida, Confederate infantry, with a battery of artillery, under command of Major Theodore W. Brevard, CSA, First Battalion Partisan Rangers, positioned forces in "woods to the right of where the enemy were posted on the 25th.... to cut off any force which might come out." Union forces started destroying railroad track about 1 mile from the city, but were driven back to Jacksonville, when Lieutenant T. E. Buckman, CSA, opened fire with the 32-pounder mounted on the railroad platform.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 235)

Colonel James Montgomery, USA, with 120 men from his regiment, on board **U.S.S. Paul Jones**, Commander Charles Steedman, USN, anchored at Palatka, Florida. Colonel Montgomery, USA, arrived from Orange Mill with black troops. Captain John J.

Dickison, CSA, commanding Camp Leo, near Palatka with Company H, Second Florida Cavalry [90 men] occupied positions on the shore opposite the **Paul Jones**.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 235, 238-239)

Colonel Haldimand S. Putnam, USA, commanding at St. Augustine, Florida, ordered to Hilton Head, South Carolina, leaving Lieutenant Colonel Joseph C. Abbott, USA, in command. Colonel Joseph R. Hawley, USA, commanding at Fernandina, Florida, ordered to Hilton Head, leaving Lieutenant Colonel George F. Gardiner, USA, in command. All Union troops at Jacksonville, Florida ordered immediately withdrawn.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 86)

C.S. Congress passed Impressment Act.

- 27 **U.S.S. Hendrick Hudson**, Lieutenant David Cate, seized British schooner **Pacifique** at St. Marks, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-54)

Major General D. Hunter, USA, Commanding Department of the South, ordered the evacuation of Jacksonville, Florida. All troops there, along with five companies of Seventh Regiment Connecticut Volunteers from Fernandina, and five companies Seventh Regiment New Hampshire volunteers from St. Augustine, to precede to Hilton Head, South Carolina.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 432)

Confederates, under command of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, continued to maintain strong force outside Jacksonville, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 235)

Palatka, Florida. Commander Charles Steedman, **U.S.S. John Paul**, started landing forces. Captain John J. Dickison, Company H, Second Florida Cavalry, CSA, commanding troops opposite the **U.S.S. Paul Jones**, opened fire "as soon as I saw 30 or 40 men on the wharf, and at the same time the upper and lower deck of the boat crowded as thick as they could stand." Union forces retreated to the **John Paul**, and land forces under command of Colonel James Montgomery, USA pulled back. The **John Paul** steamed to Orange Mill and embarked the Union land forces.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 238-239)

- 28 Confederates, under command of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, continued to maintain a strong force outside Jacksonville, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 235)
- 29 Commander James M. Duncan, **U.S.S. Norwich**, reported to Rear Admiral Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, the evacuation of

Jacksonville, Florida, by Union troops after destroying the greater part of the city.

(CWNC: pg III-54)

- 31 Jacksonville, Florida, evacuated by Union forces.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 3)

**U.S.S. Two Sisters**, Acting Master William A. Arthur, captured schooner **Agnes** off Tortugas with cargo of cotton.

(CWNC: pg III-55)

#### APRIL

- 1 President Lincoln wrote Major General David Hunter, USA, Department of the South, commanding: "I am glad to see the accounts of your colored force at Jacksonville, Florida. I see the enemy are driving at them fiercely, as is to be expected. It is important to the enemy that such a force shall not take shape and grow and thrive in the South, and is precisely the same proportion it is important to us that it shall. Hence the utmost caution and vigilance is necessary on our part. The enemy will make extra efforts to destroy them, and we should do the same to preserve and increase them."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 435-436)
- 2 Detachment of 12 men under command of Captain William E. Chambers, CSA, and Captain S. W. Mays, CSA, along for information, ordered to Econiah Scrub, Putnam County, Florida, to investigate allegations "made by slave Toby, recently arrested at Jacksonville, concerning alleged conspiracies of the negroes in that section to leave their owners and go to the enemy."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 863)
- 2-9 An armed boat expedition of sailors and Marines under Acting Lieutenant Edward Y. McCauley, **U.S.S. Fort Henry**, reconnoitered the Bayport, Florida, area. The boats stood in for Bayport on the evening of the 2nd, arriving off the city the next morning. The first launch, exhibiting the "sluggish" qualities that were to be trying throughout the reconnaissance, slowed the expedition's progress through the intricate channel. "This waste of time," McCauley reported, "gave the rebels leisure to make all preparations for our reception." Two Confederate sloops and two small schooners ran into a bayou and grounded seeking to avoid destruction. Sloop **Helen**, used for transporting Confederate provisions along the Florida coast, was captured with a cargo of corn by a boat from the **U.S.S. Sagamore** south of Bayport harbor and burned. The Union boat crews engaged and forced the evacuation of a defending battery, and the Confederates burned a schooner with cargo of cotton. McCauley reported: "Having gained my object in her destruction and the clearing of the

battery, the disabling of two of my guns, the unwieldiness of the first launch, which made it difficult to bring her gun to bear; the uncertainty of aim in the sea that was running, and consequent waste of ammunition, and the warnings of Mr. Ashley, the pilot, that if the ebb tide found us there we should be left aground, made me give up my design of trying to set the vessels in the bayou on fire by shelling." The boats withdrew out of range of a rifled gun which the Confederates brought up. In the next week the expedition examined the Chassahowitzka, Crystal, Homosassa, Withlacoochee, Waccassassa, and Suwannee Rivers, as small boats carried the message of seapower where deeper draft vessels could not pass. (CWNC: pg III-57; pg VI-250)

- 6 **U.S.S. Huntsville**, Acting Lieutenant W. C. Rogers, captured sloop **Minnie** off Charlotte Harbor, Florida, with cargo of cotton. (CWNC: pg III-58)

- 8 **U.S.S. Gem of the Sea**, Acting Lieutenant Irvin B. Baxter, seized blockade running British schooner **Maggie Fulton** off Indian River Inlet, Florida. "I am confident," Baxter reported to Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey, USN, "that no vessels have run in or out of either Jupiter or Indian River inlets since the 6th of March, 1863, as our boats are in the river whenever the bar will permit them to cross." (CWNC: pg III-62)

Confederate steamer **Berosa**, an antiquated and worn out craft used to transport cargo, sprang a leak while sailing from St. Marys River and was abandoned in the Gulf Stream. (CWNC: pg VI-205)

- 11 Seventh Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, Colonel Hawley, USA, ordered to return to Fernandina, Florida; and Seventh Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers, Colonel Putnam, USA, ordered to return to St. Augustine, Florida. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 439)

- 13 **U.S.S. Annie**, Acting Ensign James S. Williams, captured schooner **Mattie** off the Florida Gulf coast. (CWNC: pg III-66)

- 14 **U.S.S. Huntsville**, Acting Lieutenant W. C. Rogers, captured blockade running British schooner **Ascension** off the Florida Gulf coast. (CWNC: pg III-66)

- 16 **U.S.S. Hendrick Hudson**, Acting Lieutenant David Cate, captured blockade running British schooner **Teresa** off the coast of Florida. (CWNC: pg III-67)

- 17 **U.S.S. Wanderer**, Acting Master Eleazer S. Turner, took schooner **Annie B** southwest of Egmont Key, Florida, bound for Havana, Cuba, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-67)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida, requested a signal officer. He wanted to establish a line of signals from the mouth of the St. Johns River to Jacksonville (20 miles), where he was establishing a battery, to keep informed of the numbers and movement of Union blockaders off St. Johns bar.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 919)

- 18 **U.S.S. Susquehanna**, Commodore Robert B. Hitchcock, captured schooner **Alabama** off the Florida Gulf coast with cargo including wine, coffee, nails, and dry goods.  
(CWNC: pg III-67)

**U.S.S. Gem of the Sea**, Acting Lieutenant Irvin B. Baxter, captured and destroyed blockade running British schooner **Inez** off Indian River Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-67)

- 20 **U.S.S. Octorara**, Commander Napoleon Collins, captured British blockade runner **W. Y. Leitch** east of Florida with cargo of salt.  
(CWNC: pg III-68)

A landing party under Lieutenant Commander George U. Morris, **U.S.S. Port Royal**, captured cotton awaiting transportation at Apalachicola, Florida. Three prisoners and a quantity of canister, shot and chain were also taken.  
(CWNC: pg III-69)

- 21 **U.S.S. Octorara**, Commander Napoleon Collins, seized blockade running British schooner **Handy** east of Florida with cargo of salt.  
(CWNC: pg III-70)

- 23 **U.S.S. Tioga**, Commander Albert G. Clary, seized blockade running British sloop **Justina** bound from Indian River, Florida, to Nassau with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-71)

- 24 C.S. Congress passed new tax law, including income tax and tax-in-kind.

- 26 **U.S.S. Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, captured schooner **New York** off Tortugas, Florida, with cargo of turpentine and cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-72)

- 27 **U.S.S. Preble**, Acting Master William F. Shankland, was accidentally destroyed by fire while at anchor off Pensacola, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-72)

Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, in Tennessee, upon being relieved by Major General Simon B. Buckner, CSA, ordered to assume command of the District of the Gulf [within Military District No. 2 under the command of Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA].  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 1055-1056)

- 28 Captain and Chief Signal Officer, James Alexander, CSA, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, recommended approving the sending of one signal officer for duty to Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida. Also, during inspection of District of Middle Florida, he reported finding a well organized and instructed corps of signal men with lines extended only from St. Marks light house to Tallahassee, where it connected with the wires of Brigadier General Howell Cobb's, [CSA], headquarters, at Quincy, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 145, pg 919-920)

- 30 Report of troops in District of East Florida, commanded by Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, indicated 56 officers, and 1,057 men present for duty. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 922)

**C.S.S. Isoudiaga**, Lieutenant J. S. Kennard, CSN, commanding, a small wooden gunboat without masts, operated in the waters around Savannah, Georgia, and in St. Augustine Creek, Florida,

*Abstract from Return of the District of East Florida, commanded by  
Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, for April, 1863.*

Troops.	Present for duty.						Aggregate present	Aggregate present and absent.
	Infantry.		Cavalry.		Artillery.			
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
1st Special Battalion (one company)	2	51	—	—	—	—	56	88
Six companies independent infantry	16	244	—	—	—	—	292	430
Five companies cavalry . . . . .	—	—	19	413	—	—	477	559
Four companies Partisan Rangers .	—	—	13	212	—	—	265	372
Two companies artillery . . . . .	—	—	—	—	6	137	147	175
Grand total . . . . .	18	295	32	625	6	137	1,237	1,615



from April 1863 to December 1864.  
(CWNC: pg VI-252)

Report of troops for the Department of the Gulf, Nineteenth Army Corps, Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, commanding, indicated the District of Pensacola, Florida, Colonel William C. Holbrook, USA, commanding had 80 officers and 1,437 men; and Key West and Tortugas, Florida, Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding, had 1,512 [aggregate] present for duty. The Organization of troops for the Department of the Gulf indicated the District of West Florida [also known as District of Pensacola] had 28th Connecticut, 15th Maine, 7th Vermont, and 2nd U.S. Artillery, Batteries H and K assigned; and the District of Key West and Tortugas had 90th New York and 47th Pennsylvania assigned. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 712, 714)

Report of organization of troops for the Department of the Gulf, Major General Simon B. Buckner, CSA, commanding indicated a Florida Cavalry Battalion, Captain T. J. Myers,

*Abstract from Return of the Department of the Gulf, Nineteenth Army Corps. Maj. Gen. N. P. Banks commanding, for the month of April, 1863 (headquarters Opelousas, La.).*

Command.	Present for duty.				
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Aggregate present and absent at last monthly return.
District of Pensacola, Fla., Col. W.C. Holbrook's command . . .	80	1,437	1,872	1,945	2,025
Key West and Tortugas, Brig. Gen. D.P. Woodbury's command	—	—	1,512	1,565	—

*Organization of the troops in the Department of the Gulf (Nineteenth Army Corps), Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, U.S. Army, commanding, April 30, 1863; headquarters Opelousas, La.*

**DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS.\***

Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Woodbury.

90th New York, Lieut. Col. Louis W. Tinelli.

47th Pennsylvania, Col. Tilghman H. Good.

**DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA.‡**

Col. William C. Holbrook.

28th Connecticut, Col. Samuel P. Ferris.

15th Maine, Lieut. Col. Benjamin B. Murray, jr.

7th Vermont, Lieut. Col. David B. Peck.

2d U.S. Artillery, Battery H, Capt. Frank H. Larned.

2d U.S. Artillery, Battery K, Capt. Harvey A. Allen.

\*Transferred to Department of the Gulf, and General Woodbury assigned to command by General Orders, No. 66, Adjutant-General's Office, March 16, 1863.

‡ Known also as the District of Pensacola.

CSA, in the Eastern Division [at and near Pollard, Alabama] under the command of Brigadier General James Cantey, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 15, pg 1068)

30-MAY 6 Confederate victory at Chancellorsville, Virginia.  
Lee (C) v. Hooker (U).

## MAY

- 1 Joint Resolution of the Congress of the Confederate States of America, on the subject of the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Lincoln on 22 September 1862, and effective on 1 January 1863. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 235-236)

C.S. Congress passed Railroad Act, giving broader powers to the Confederate War Department.

- 2 Two boat crews from U.S.S. **Roebuck**, Acting Master John Sherrill, seized blockade running British schooner **Emma Amelia** off St. Josephs Bay, Florida, with cargo including flour and wine.  
(CWNC: pg III-75)

Major General David Hunter, USA, commanding Department of the South, requested troops at Key West, Florida, be sent to his Department.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 523)

Colonel Haldimand S. Putnam, USA, commanding St. Augustine, ordered to Fernandina, where he relieved Colonel Joseph R. Hawley, USA. Colonel Hawley on being relieved was ordered to St. Augustine, where he relieved Lieutenant Colonel George F. Gardiner, USA, who was sent to Hilton Head, South Carolina.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 89)

- 5 U.S.S. **Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, captured schooner **Crazy Jane** in the Gulf of Mexico northwest of Charlotte Harbor, Florida, with cargo of cotton and turpentine.  
(CWNC: pg III-77)

- 8 Organization of the Districts [as opposed to Departments] of East and Middle Florida, in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, under command of Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 931)

*Organization of Troops in Department of South Carolina, Georgia,  
and Florida. 8 May 1863.*

*DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA.*

Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan commanding.

1st Special Battalion, Capt. E. West.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. John Bryan.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. J.C. Chambers.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. S.M.G. Gary.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. S.E. Hope.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. John McNeill.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. A.P. Mootey.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. A.A. Ochus.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. J.W. Pearson.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. A.A. Stewart.  
Independent Infantry, Capt. John Underwood.  
2d Florida Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel McCormick.  
Partisan Rangers (four companies), Maj. T.W. Brevard.  
Milton (Florida) Artillery, Company A, Capt. Joseph L. Dunham.  
Milton (Florida) Artillery, Company B, Capt. Henry F. Abell.

*DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA.*

Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb commanding.

Company Infantry, Capt. John Ellis.  
Company Infantry, Capt. B.O. Grenad.  
Company Infantry, Capt. C.J. Jenkins.  
Company Infantry, Capt. T.M. Mickler.  
Company Infantry, Capt. J.C. Richard.  
Company Infantry, Capt. W.J. Robinson.  
Company Cavalry, Capt. H.T. Blocker.  
Company Cavalry, Capt. J.N. Horn.  
Company Cavalry, Capt. W.H. Milton.  
Company Cavalry, Capt. G.W. Scott.  
Company Cavalry, Capt. C. Thigpin.  
Leon (Florida) Light Artillery, Capt. R.H. Gamble.

INSERT DISTRICT OF EAST/MIDDLE FLA  
ORGANIZATION (WOR SER I, VOL 14, PG 931)

- 10 Death of Lieutenant General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, CSA, resulted from wounds received from his own troops at Chancellorsville, Richmond
- 13 U.S.S. Huntsville, Acting Lieutenant William C. Rogers, captured schooner A. J. Hodge at sea off the east Florida coast.  
(CWNC: pg III-81)
- U.S.S. De Soto, Captain William M. Walker, seized schooner Sea Bird from Havana, Cuba, off Pensacola Bay, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-81)
- 16 U.S.S. Two Sisters, Acting Master's Mate John Boyle, captured schooner Oliver S. Breeze off the Anclote Keys, Florida, bound from Havana, Cuba, to Bayport, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-81)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida, believing that the Union naval forces on the St. Johns River had "been using flags of truce for improper purposes," notified the commanding officer of the U.S. Navy in the St. Johns River that "hereafter no communication under

flag of truce will be received or sent on the St. Johns River. [Further] interchange of any communications... will be made at a point near Fernandina, [Florida]." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 945)

- 19 **U.S.S. Huntsville**, Acting Lieutenant W. C. Rogers, seized blockade running Spanish steamer **Union** in the Gulf of Mexico west of St. Petersburg, Florida. (CWNC: pg III-83)
- 21 **U.S.S. Union**, Acting Lieutenant Edward Conroy, seized blockade running British schooner **Linnet** in the Gulf of Mexico, west of Charlotte Harbor, Florida. (CWNC: pg III-85)
- 22 Small boats from **U.S.S. Fort Henry**, Lieutenant Commander Edward Y. McCauley, captured sloop **Isabella** in Waccassassa Bay, Florida, while en route from Tampa to Island Number 4 in the Florida Keys. (CWNC: pg III-85, VI-252)
- 24 A boat expedition under Acting Master Edgar Van Slyck from **U.S.S. Port Royal**, Lieutenant Commander George U. Morris, captured sloop **Fashion** at Fort Gadsden, 24 miles above Apalachicola, Florida, with cargo of sea-island cotton. Van Slyck also burned the facility at Devil's Elbow where the sloop had been previously repaired and destroyed the barge in which the cotton had been transported around the obstructions in the river through the Chipola Cut-off and Gum Swamp to the **Fashion**. (CWNC: pg III-85: WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 954)
- 25 Confederate gunboat **C.S.S. Chattahoochee**, Lieutenant John J. Guthrie, CSN, commanding proceeded down the Apalachicola River, but finding the water too low [7 1/2 feet] at Blountstown, seven miles below Alum Bluff, continued down the river in an open boat to Ricco's Bluff, where he learned of the capture and burning of the sloop **Fashion**. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 954: CWNC: pg VI-208)
- 27 At Blountstown, Florida, the Confederate gunboat **C.S.S. Chattahoochee**, Lieutenant John J. Guthrie, CSN, commanding, while preparing to leave anchorage in an attempt to retake Confederate sloop **Fashion**, captured on 24 May, sank in twelve feet of water, when the boilers exploded. Fourteen killed, [including three engineers and the pilot], eight wounded. Captain of engineers, Theodore Moreno, CSA, hurried down river from Ocheesee, Florida, [Camp Anderson] in steamer **William H. Young** to render assistance, in "the midst of a violent storm of rain and wind." En route up river to Columbus, Georgia, with survivors, the **Young** stopped at Chattahoochee, Florida, to inter the dead.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 954: CWNC: pg VI-325)

- 30 Major General Nathaniel F. Banks, USA, commanding Department of the Gulf, Nineteenth Army Corps, informed Major General David Hunter, USA, that the troops requested on 2nd May actually formed the garrisons of Key West and Tortugas, Florida, and that the posts had been transferred to the Department of the Gulf, thus it was "impossible to relieve the garrisons."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 523)

- 31 **U.S.S. Sunflower**, Acting Master Edward Van Sice, seized schooner **Echo** off the Marquesas Keys, Florida, with cargo of cotton.

(CWNC: pg III-89)

Organization of troops in the Department of the Gulf [Nineteenth Army Corps], Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, commanding, indicated in the District of Key West and Tortugas, commanded by Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, five companies of the 47th Pennsylvania at each post. And, for the District of Pensacola, Colonel Isaac Dyer, USA, the 15th Maine, 7th Vermont, Batteries H and K, 2nd U.S. Artillery. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 532)

**JUNE**

*Organization of Troops Department of the Gulf, 31 May 1863.*

DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS.

Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Woodbury.

47th Pennsylvania (five companies), Col. Tilghman H. Good, Key West.

47th Pennsylvania (five companies), Lieut. Col. George W. Alexander,  
Tortugas.

DISTRICT OF PENSACOLA.\*

Col. Isaac Dyer.

15th Maine, Lieut. Col. Benjamin B. Murray, jr.

7th Vermont, Lieut. Col. David B. Peck.

2d U.S. Artillery, Battery H, Capt. Frank H. Lamed.

2d U.S. Artillery, Battery K, Capt. Harvey A. Allen.

\* The Twenty-eighth Connecticut, Colonel Ferris, embarked May 10 for Barre's Landing, La. Colonel Dyer in command, according to district return. The department return reports Col. William C. Holbrook as commanding at this date.



- 1 U.S. Consul Seth C. Hawley at Nassau wrote Assistant Secretary of State Frederick W. Seward, commenting on the continued attempts to run the blockade despite the danger of capture or destruction. Naming 28 ships that had run or attempted to run the blockade since 10 March 1863, Hawley observed that 13 had not been successful. "This proportion of loss seems too large to allow the business to be profitable, but this view is deceptive. The number of successful and unsuccessful voyages must be compared to make a sound conclusion.....To arrive at the probable profits of the business, I made an estimate in the case of the *Ella* and *Annie*. She came into the business in April, has made two successful voyages and is now absent on the third venture.

"One voyage outward cargo, say .....	\$100,000
One voyage expense, etc.....	\$ 15,000
	<hr/>
	\$115,000

She returns with 1,300 bales of cotton,	
weighing an average of 400 pounds per	
bale, equal to 45 cents per pound, or ....	\$234,000
From which deduct the cost .....	\$115,000

Leaves profit .....	<hr/>
	\$119,000

"Assume that she makes the average four voyages and is lost on the fifth with her cargo, the account would stand thus: Four voyages, profit at \$119,000 each, is \$476,000; deduct cost of steamer, \$100,000, and cargo, \$100,000, equal \$200,000, leaves as profit on four voyages, \$276,000. This estimate of profits is far less; it is not half as great as the figures made by those engaged in the business." Thus patriotism and the great profit realized from a successful run through the blockade combined to induce adventurous Southerners to risk capture or destruction by the Union fleet. (CWNC: pg III-89)

Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, made an inspection tour of Georgia and Florida, including a stop at Jacksonville, which he indicated was "a position which ... should be held and fortified." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 966)

- 3 U.S.S. *Stars and Stripes*, Acting Master Charles L. Willcomb, captured sloop *Florida* at St. Marks Bay, Florida, with cargo of cotton and tar. (CWNC: pg III-90)

Major General David Hunter, USA, temporarily relieved from command of the Department of the South for special duty in

Washington, D.C, and Brigadier General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, assigned temporarily in command.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 464)

Report of troops present for duty in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, under the command of Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, indicated 803 men in District of East Florida, and 1520 men in the District of Middle Florida present for duty. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 964)

- 6 U.S.S. **Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, seized schooner **Statesman**, aground at Gadsen's Point, Florida, Old Tampa Bay, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-91)
- 8 Report of troops in Department of the Gulf, Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding, indicated in the Eastern Division commanded by Brigadier General James Cantey, CSA, at Camp Lomax, Florida and Pollard, Alabama, 1,460 men aggregate present and absent, with an effective strength of 1,175 men, and an aggregate present of 1,313 men. The Eastern Division included three companies of the Florida Cavalry Battalion.  
text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part II, pg 39)
- 12 Brigadier General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, relieved Major General David Hunter, USA, and assumed command of the Department of the South.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 14, pg 464; Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 3)

*Abstract from Return of Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia,  
and Florida, commanded by General G.T. Beauregard, June 3, 1863.*

Commanding officer.	Troops.	Present for duty.			Aggregate present	Aggregate present and absent.
		Total effective infantry.	Total effective cavalry.	Total effective artillery.		
Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb . . . . .	District of Middle Florida . . . . .	788	452	280	1,701	2,128
Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan . . . . .	District of East Florida . . . . .	222	441	140	916	1,244
Grand total . . . . .		1,010	893	420	2,617	3,372

RECAPITULATION OF EFFECTIVES.

District of Middle Florida . . . . .	1,520
District of East Florida . . . . .	<u>803</u>
Total effectives . . . . .	2,323

- 13    **U.S.S. Sunflower**, Acting Master Van Sice, captured schooner **Pushmataha** off Tortugas, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-93)

Report from the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P.G.T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated the District of East Florida, Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding, reported 1,244 aggregate present and absent; and the District of Middle Florida, Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding, reported 2,128 aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 140)

- 16    **U.S.S. Circassian**, Acting Lieutenant William B. Eaton, captured blockade running sloop **John Wesley** off St. Marks, Florida, bound for Havana, Cuba, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg II-95)
- 18    **U.S.S. Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, captured British blockade runner **Harriet** near Anclote Keys, near Tarpon Springs, Florida. **Tahoma** chased British blockade runner **Mary Jane** ashore and destroyed her at Clearwater, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-96)
- U.S.S. James S. Chambers**, Acting Master L. Nickerson, captured schooner **Rebekah** off Tampa Bay, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-96)
- 19    Mortar schooner **U.S.S. Para**, Acting Master Edward G. Furber, captured blockade running schooner **Emma** off Mosquito Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-96)

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
General G.T. Beauregard, C.S. Army, commanding, for June 13, 1863.*

Command.	Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent
District of East Florida (Finegan):			
Infantry .....	222	273	340
Light Artillery .....	140	149	158
Cavalry .....	441	494	746
Total .....	803	916	1,244
District of Middle Florida (Cobb):			
Infantry .....	788	889	1,161
Light Artillery .....	280	303	358
Cavalry .....	452	509	609
Total .....	1,520	1,701	2,128

- 23    **U.S.S. Pursuit**, Lieutenant William P. Randall, took sloop **Kate** in Indian River, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-97)
- 24    Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren, USN, was detached from duty at the Washington Navy Yard and as Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance and ordered to relieve Rear Admiral Samuel F. Du Pont, USN, at Port Royal in command of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron. Originally, the Navy Department ordered Rear Admiral Andrew H. Foote, USN, to the Blockading Squadron, but the hero of the western waters suffered a relapse from his long illness occasioned by the wound sustained at Fort Donelson and was unable to accept the command.  
(CWNC: pg III-98)
- 25    Lieutenant Commander Earl English, **U.S.S. Sagamore**, reported the capture of blockade running British schooner **Frolic** off Crystal River, Florida, with cargo of cotton and turpentine, bound for Havana, Cuba.  
(CWNC: pg III-100)
- 26    Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida, requested heavy guns to fortify Jacksonville, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 181)
- 28    Armed boats from **U.S.S. Fort Henry**, Lieutenant Commander Edward Y. McCauley, captured schooner **Anna Maria** in Steinhatchee River, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-104)
- 30    Report of Department of the Gulf (Nineteenth Army Corps), Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, commanding, indicated present for duty in the District of Key West and Tortugas, 34 officers and 717 men; and in the District of Pensacola, 44 officers and 884 men. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 610)

*Abstract from return of the Department of the Gulf (Nineteenth Army Corps),  
 Maj Gen. N.P. Banks, U.S. Army, commanding, for the month of June, 1863;  
 headquarters, before Port Hudson, La.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
District of Key West, & c. (Woodbury) .....	34	717	1,061	1,103
District of Pensacola (Holbrook) .....	44	884	1,136	1,206
Total .....	78	1,601	2,197	2,309

Report of Department of the South (Tenth Army Corps), Brigadier General Quincy, A. Gillmore, USA, commanding, indicated Fernandina had 24 officers and 302 men present for duty; and St. Augustine had 16 officers and 370 men present for duty. The Organization of Troops report indicated the companies at Fernandina and St. Augustine. See Charts for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 7, 9)

Report of the District of East Florida, Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding, indicated 1,840 aggregate present and absent. The Location of Troops Report indicated Confederate troops in Bayport, Camp Cooper [near Fernandina], Green Cove Springs, Camp Finegan [near Jacksonville], Lake City, Palatka, Tampa, Homosassa, and Crystal River, Florida. See Charts for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 172-173)



*Abstract from return of the Department of the South (Tenth Army Corps),  
Brig. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U.S. Army, commanding, for June, 1863;  
headquarters Port Royal, S.C.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Fernandina, Fla. (Plaisted) .....	24	302	459	560	—	—
Saint Augustine, Fla. (Hawley) .....	16	370	464	535	—	—
Total .....	40	672	923	1,095	—	—

*Organization of Troops, Department of the South, June 1863.*

**FERNANDINA, FLA.**

11th Maine, Col. Harris M. Plaisted.

**SAINT AUGUSTINE, FLA.**

7th Connecticut (six companies), Col. Joseph R. Hawley.

*Abstract from return of the District of East Florida, for June 30, 1863.*

Command.	<u>Present for duty.</u>			Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.			
General staff .....	16	—	—	16	16	—
1st Florida Special Battalion (one company) .....	3	61	63	72	89	—
2d Florida Cavalry (five companies) .....	17	356	370	419	556	—
Partisan Rangers (battalion) .....	18	187	194	248	361	—
Independent infantry companies .....	19	399	410	471	642	—
Milton (Florida) Artillery, Companies A and B .....	7	138	138	154	176	8
Total .....	75	1,141	1,175	1,380	1,840	8

*Location of troops in the District of East Florida, Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan,  
C.S. Army, commanding, June 30, 1863.*

**BAYPORT.**

Capt. J.C. Chambers.

Independent company, Capt. J.C. Chambers.

Independent company, Capt. S.M.G. Gary.

Independent company, Capt. Samuel E. Hope.

**CAMP COOPER (NEAR FERNANDINA).**

Maj. Robert Harrison.

2d Florida Cavalry, Company K, Capt. F.J. Clark.

Milton Artillery, Company B, Capt. H.F. Abell.

**GREEN COVE SPRINGS.**

Independent company, Capt. A.A. Ochus.

## JULY

- 1-3 Union victory at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Meade (U) v. Lee (C).
  
- 3 Boats from **U.S.S. Fort Henry**, Lieutenant Commander Edward Y. McCauley, captured sloop **Emma** north of Sea Horse Key, Florida, with cargo of tar and Confederate mail.  
(CWNC: pg III-106)
  
- 4 Vicksburg, Mississippi, surrendered to Major General Ulysses S. Grant, USA by Major General John C Pemberton, CSA.
  
- 6 **U.S.S. De Soto**, Captain William M. Walker, captured blockade runner **Lady Maria** off Clearwater, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-111)
  
- 7 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida, notified that there were no heavy guns available for him to fortify Jacksonville, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 181)

- 8 The Mississippi River opened with the surrender of the Confederate garrison at Port Hudson, Louisiana.
- 9 Boat crew from **U.S.S. Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, captured an unnamed flatboat with cargo of sugar and molasses near Manatee River, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-112)
- 10 Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, back from an inspection of West Florida and positions on the Apalachicola River, reported very poor health conditions and sickness at the batteries at the obstructions in the Narrows. For this reason, he occupied Fort Gadsden, a point below the Narrows, and about 25 miles above Apalachicola, Florida, and stationed there four field pieces and a detachment of infantry and cavalry. He further indicated three positions [Fort Gadsden, the Narrows, and Hammock Landing, about 20 miles below Chattahoochee] on the Apalachicola River would continued to be occupied. General Cobb requested additional guns to retake and hold Apalachicola.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 189-190)
- 14 **U.S.S. R. R. Cuyler**, Lieutenant Commander James E. Jouett, captured steamer **Kate Dale** off Tortugas, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-115)
- U.S.S. Jasmine**, Acting Master Alfred L. B. Zerega, captured sloop **Relampago** near the Florida Keys bound from Havana, Cuba, with cargo including copper boiler tubing.  
(CWNC: pg III-115)
- 15 Boat crews from **U.S.S. Stars and Stripes** and **Somerset**, under Lieutenant Commander Alexander F. Crosman, landed at Marsh's Island, Florida, and destroyed some 60 bushels of salt and 50 salt boilers.  
(CWNC: pg III-116)
- U.S.S. Santiago de Cuba**, Commander Robert H. Wyman, captured steamer **Lizzie** east of the Florida coast.  
(CWNC: pg III-116)
- 16 Expedition from **U.S.S. Port Royal**, Lieutenant Commander George U. Morris, captured cotton ready to be run through the blockade at Apalachicola, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-117)
- 17 Based on information regarding the state of the "Abolition garrison at St. Augustine," Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, suggested that "by a union of the forces

in Districts of East and Middle Florida, a successful expedition might be ... executed against either St. Augustine or Fernandina."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 205)

- 19 Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding District of Key West, Florida, ordered to turn over his command to next senior and report to Washington.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 108)

- 21 Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, approved Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, project of occupying and fortifying Fort Gadsden on the Apalachicola River, but re-emphasized the importance of holding the Narrows, and indicated there were no heavy guns available for an expedition to retake and hold Apalachicola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 190, 214)

- 22 Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard commanding, indicated in the District of East Florida 1,815 and the District of Middle Florida 2,128 aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 219)

- 23 Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding District of the Gulf, reported a large naval force assembling at Pensacola, Florida, and expected Mobile to be soon attacked.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part II, pg 120)

- 25 Captain of Engineers William E. Merrill, USA, proposed a cavalry raid be made from Pensacola, Florida, to destroy bridges, trestles, and rails at Pollard and Tensas Station in Alabama, the main junction of the Montgomery and Pensacola

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G. T. Beauregard, C.S. Army, commanding, for July 22, 1863.*

Command.	Present.		
	Effective total.	Aggregate.	Aggregate present and absent.
District of East Florida (Finegan) .....	1,175	1,360	1,815
District of Middle Florida (Cobb) .....	1,520	1,701	2,128
Total .....	2,695	3,061	3,943

Railroad with the Mobile and Great Northern Railroad. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 654-655)

- 28 Under the command of Lieutenant Commander Earl English, U.S.S. **Beauregard** and **Oleander** and boats from U.S.S. **Sagamore** and **Para** attacked New Smyrna, Florida. After shelling the town, the Union force "captured one sloop loaded with cotton, one schooner not laden; caused them to destroy several vessels, some of which were loaded with cotton and about ready to sail. They burned large quantities of it on shore.... Landed a strong force, destroyed all the buildings that had been occupied by troops." The Union Navy's capability to strike swiftly and effectively at any point on the South's sea perimeter kept the Confederacy off balance.  
(CWNC: pg III-121)

Brigadier General Joesph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, strongly discouraged an expedition, proposed by Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, to seize either St. Augustine or Fernandina, pointing out that the forts in control of Union forces [Marion and Clinch, respectively] would have to be taken, to do so required heavy guns, and there were none available. Furthermore, to take St. Augustine, without controlling the St. Johns River, would be useless.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 240-241)

- 29 U.S.S. **Rosalie**, Acting Master Peter F. Coffin, seized blockade running British schooner **Georgie** in the Caloosahatchee River, near Fort Myers, Florida. The schooner had been abandoned and carried no cargo.  
(CWNC: pg III-121)

Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN, temporarily relinquished command of the West Gulf Blockading Squadron to Commodore Henry H. Bell, USN. Bell hoisted his broad pennant on board the U.S.S. **Pensacola**.

(CWNC: pg III-121)

- 30 Organization of the troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated companies in the Districts of East and Middle Florida. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 247-248)

*Organization of Troops, Department of South Carolina, Georgia,  
and Florida, 30 July 1863.*

DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA. \*

Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan.

1st Florida Special Battalion (one company), Capt. Edwin West.  
2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Lieut. Col. A.H. McCormick.  
2d Florida Battalion (five companies).  
Florida company, Capt. John Bryan.  
Florida company, Capt. J.C. Chambers.  
Florida company, Capt. S.M.G. Gary.  
Florida company, Capt. Samuel E. Hope.  
Florida company, Capt. A.P. Mootey.  
Florida company, Capt. John W. Pearson.  
Florida company, Capt. A.A. Stewart.  
Milton (Florida) Artillery, Company A, Capt. Joseph L. Dunham  
Milton (Florida) Artillery, Company B, Capt. Henry F. Abell.

DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA.

Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb.

1st Florida Special Battalion, Lieut. Col. C.F. Hopkins.  
2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Col. Caraway Smith.  
Florida cavalry company, Capt. A.C. Smith.  
Florida company (Partisan Rangers), Capt. W.J. Robinson.  
Florida company, Capt. W.E. Anderson.  
Florida company, Capt. C. Beggs.  
Florida company, Capt. J.J. Chaires.  
Florida company, Capt. E.A. Curry.  
Florida company, Capt. D.D. McLean.  
Florida company, Capt. O.F. Peek.  
Florida company, Capt. John Tanner.  
1st Georgia (regulars), Col. William J. Magill.  
64th Georgia, Col. John W. Evans.  
Cobb Guards (Company A, Georgia Artillery), Capt. F.T. Cullens.  
Echols (Georgia) Artillery, Capt. John H. Tiller.  
Eufaula Minute Men, Capt. John Hardy.  
Kilcrease (Florida) Artillery, Capt. F.L. Villepigue.  
Leon (Florida) Artillery, Capt. R.H. Gamble.  
Georgia Siege Artillery (one company), Capt. C.G. Campbell.

\* Headquarters at Lake City, Fla.



(INSERT FROM WORKER I, VOL 28, PART II, PG 247-248)

- 31 Report of the Department of the South, Brigadier General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding, indicated Fernandina had 19 officers and 234 men present for duty; and St. Augustine had 15 officers and 355 men present for duty. The Organization of Troops indicate the companies stationed at Fernandina and St. Augustine. See Charts for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 31, 34)

*Abstracts from returns of the Department of the South, Brig. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore,  
U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of July, 1863;  
headquarters Morris Island, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Fernandina (Plaisted) .....	19	234	421	546	(*)	(*)
Saint Augustine (Hawley) .....	15	355	484	533	18	1
Total .....	34	589	905	1,079	18	1

*Organization of Troops, Department of the South, 31 July 1863.*

**FERNANDINA.**

Col. H.M. Plaister.

11th Maine, Maj. Winslow P. Spofford.

4th South Carolina (colored), Capt. Mahlon E. Davis.

**SAINT AUGUSTINE.**

7th Connecticut (six companies), Col. Joseph R. Hawley.

## AUGUST

- 1 Organization of troops in the Department of the Gulf, Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding, indicated the Eastern Division, Colonel J. P. W. Amerine, CSA, commanding, with 3rd Florida Cavalry Battalion, Major T. J. Myers, CSA; and Miscellaneous, S. J. Murphy's battalion of Alabama and Florida Cavalry.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part II, pg 131)

Report of troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated in the District of East Florida 1,850, and in the District of Middle Florida 3,586 men aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 249)

*Abstract from return of the army in Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G. T. Beauregard, commanding, for the period ending August 1, 1863;  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
District of East Florida (Finegan) .....	74	1,087	1,135	1,318	1,850	13
District of Middle Florida (Cobb) .....	106	2,094	2,242	2,777	3,586	—
Total .....	180	3,181	3,377	4,095	5,436	13

- 2 Major Dudley W. Strickland, USA, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, arrived and assumed command of U.S. forces at St. Augustine, Florida, relieving Colonel Joseph R. Hawley, USA. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 42)
- 4 John Gill Shorter, Governor of Alabama, reported the "a band of deserters and outlying conscripts" in the lower part of Henry County, Alabama, upon the border with Florida, hiding in the "swamps of the Chipola River and its tributaries," and asked for assistance from Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 274)
- 6 U.S.S. **Fort Henry**, Lieutenant Commander Edward Y. McCauley, captured sloop **Southern Star** at St. Martins Reef, Florida, with cargo of turpentine. (CWNC: pg III-124)
- Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding District of Middle Florida, ordered to report and send 500 infantry and one light battery to Savannah, Georgia. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 260)
- 7 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, ordered to assume command of the District of Middle Florida, during absence of Brigadier General Howell Cobb. But, the districts would remain separate and distinct commands when not under the command of the same officer. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 265)
- 8 U.S.S. **Saganore**, Lieutenant Commander Earl English, seized British sloop **Clara Louisa** off Indian River, Florida. Later the same day he captured British schooners **Southern Rights** and **Shot** and Confederate schooner **Ann** off Gilbert's Bar, Florida. (CWNC: pg III-126)

Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding Department of the Gulf, reported "returned prisoners from Vicksburg, Fort Pickens, and other points occupied by the enemy report that the operations of the armies of Grant and Banks will not be extended in this direction before the fall."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part II, pg 152)

- 9 Colonel A. B. Montgomery, CSA, commanding troops in West Florida, ordered to give all assistance he could to the Governor of Alabama, John Gill Shorter in the control or destruction of the band of deserters and outlying conscripts in the lower part of Henry County, Alabama, hiding in the swamps of the Chipola River and its tributaries. See 4 AUGUST.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 273)

- 10 Tabular statement of regiments, batteries, and detached companies and the organization of troops in the Department of the Gulf, Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding, indicated Bluff Springs, Florida, with Third Battalion Florida Cavalry, 317 effective total, 378 aggregate present, and 486 aggregate present and absent. There was a detachment of Alabama and Florida cavalry at Hall's Mills and Pascagoula, Lieutenant Colonel S. J. Mauphy, CSA, commanding.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part II, pg 156-157)

Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated in the District of East Florida, 1,850 men; and in the District of Middle Florida, 3,486 men aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 272)

*Abstract from return of the army in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for the period ending August 10, 1863;  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty					
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
District of Middle Florida .....	106	2,094	2,242	2,677	3,486	—
District of East Florida .....	74	1,087	1,135	1,318	1,850	13
Total .....	180	3,181	3,377	3,995	5,336	13

- 14 Timely intelligence reports played an important role in alerting the Union blockaders. This date, Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey, USN, advised Lieutenant Commander Edward Y. McCauley, U.S.S. **Fort Henry**: "I have information that the steamers **Alabama** and **Nita** sailed from Havana [Cuba], on the 12th, with a view of running the blockade, probably at Mobile, but possibly between Tampa Bay and St. Marks [Florida]; also that the steamers **Montgomery** [formerly **Habanero**], the **Isabel**, the **Fannie**, the **Warrior**, and the **Little Lily** were nearly ready for sail, with like intent.... the **Isabel**, which sailed on the 7th, has undoubtedly gone either to Bayport, the **Waccasassa**, or the **Suwannee River** [all Florida ports]. You will therefore keep a sharp lookout for any of these vessels...." Four of the seven ships were captured by the blockading forces within a month.  
(CWNC: pg III-127-128)

- 17 Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding District of Middle Florida, reported to Florida Governor John Milton, he could take and hold Apalachicola, Florida if he had the necessary guns for the defense of the city once taken.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 453)

Florida Governor John Milton wrote Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, instructing him to send a list of arms needed and guns and size necessary to enable him to occupy Apalachicola, Florida. Furthermore, due to sickness on the Apalachicola River and at the arsenal at Chattahoochee, Florida, the occupation of Apalachicola should be done with propriety, where the troops "would enjoy health and render efficient service."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 453)

- 18-19 Boat expedition from U.S.S. **Norwich** and **Hale** [Hall], under Acting Master Charles F. Mitchell, destroyed a Confederate signal station and captured five men at St. Johns Mill, near Jacksonville, Florida. "The capture of this signal station," Acting Master Frank B. Meriam, commander of **Norwich**, reported, "...will either break up this end of the line or it will detain here to protect it the troops, five small companies [about 200 men] of infantry, two full companies of cavalry, and one company of artillery, that I learn are about being forwarded to Richmond."  
(CWNC: pg III-131; WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 679)

U.S.S. **Restless**, Acting Master William R. Browne, captured schooner **Ernti** with cargo of cotton southwest of the Florida Keys.  
(CWNC: pg III-131)

- 20 Major General William S. Rosecrans, USA, began movement to south of Chattanooga, Tennessee.



- 24 Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding the Department of the Gulf, reported "should an attempt be made to move from Pensacola [Florida] toward Pollard [Alabama], and from there to the Alabama River, the enemy will have a still longer line to guard --- 80 miles. But he can from Pensacola occupy points along the east shore of the bay, and I do not know how I can prevent him from doing so."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part II, pg 179)
- 26 Boat crew from U.S.S. **Beauregard**, Acting Master Francis Burgess, seized schooner **Phoebe** off Jupiter Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-134)
- 27 U.S.S. **Sunflower**, Acting Master Edward Van Sice, captured schooner **General Worth** in the Straits of Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-134)
- U.S.S. **Preble**, Acting Master William F. Shankland, was destroyed by accidental fire at Pensacola, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-134)
- 30 Major General P. G. T. **Beauregard**, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida forwarded a report of troops in the department regarded as available, to President Davis. The Districts of East and Middle Florida showed effective of all arms, 3,377.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Parts II, pg 333-334)
- 31 U.S.S. **Gem of the Sea**, Acting Lieutenant Irvin B. Baxter, captured sloop **Richard** in Peace Creek, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-135)
- Report of Department of the Gulf, Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, commanding, indicated present for duty in the District of Key West and Tortugas, 35 officers and 717 men; and for the District of Pensacola, 22 officers and 474 men. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 707)

*Abstract from return of the Department of the Gulf, Maj. Gen. N. P. Banks,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for the month of August, 1863.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
District of Key West and Tortugas (Woodbury) . . . . .	35	717	1,053	1,096	—	—
District of Pensacola (Holbrook) . . . . .	22	474	604	660	—	—
Total . . . . .	57	1,191	1,657	1,756	—	—

Report of the Department of the South, Brigadier General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding, indicated Fernandina, had 19 officers and 304 men present for duty; and St. Augustine had 5 Officers and 292 men present for duty. The Organization of Troops report indicated companies present at Fernandina and St. Augustine. See Charts for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 73, 76)

Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated in the District of Middle Florida, 2,758 men; and in the District of East Florida, 1,944 men aggregate present and absent. Organization of troops indicated CSA companies in the Districts of East Florida and Middle Florida. See Charts for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 324, 328)

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Brig. Gen. Q.A. Gillmore.  
U.S. Army, commanding, for August, 1863; headquarters Folly Island.*

Station and command.	Present for duty.				Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Heavy.	Field.
Fernandina (Plaisted) .....	19	304	518	646	—	—
Saint Augustine (Strickland) .....	5	292	431	589	1	17
Total .....	24	596	949	1,235	1	17

*Organization of Troops of the Department of the South, August 1863.*

**FERNANDINA.**

Col. H.M. Plaisted.

11th Maine, Col. H.M. Plaisted.

4th South Carolina, Company A, Capt. Thomas J. Robinson.

**SAINT AUGUSTINE.**

48th New York (eight companies), Maj. Dudley W. Strickland.

*Abstract from return of the army in Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for August 31, 1863;  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty.			Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.			
District of Middle Florida .....	85	1,755	1,853	2,286	2,758	—
District of East Florida .....	71	1,040	1,076	1,301	1,944	12
Total .....	156	2,795	2,929	3,587	4,702	12

*Organization of Troops Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
August 31, 1863.*

**DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan.

1st Florida Special Battalion (one company), Capt. Edwin West.  
2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Lieut. Col. A.H. McCormick.  
2d Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. T.W. Brevard.  
Florida company, Capt. John Bryan.  
Florida company, Capt. J.C. Chambers.  
Florida company, Capt. W.H. Cone.  
Florida company, Capt. S.M.G. Gary.  
Florida company, Capt. Samuel E. Hone.  
Florida company, Capt. A.P. Mootey.  
Florida company, Capt. John W. Pearson.  
Florida company, Capt. A.A. Stewart.  
Milton (Florida) Artillery, Companies A and B.

**DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb.

2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Col. Caraway Smith.  
4th Florida Battalion (six companies), Lieut. Col. J.F. McClellan.  
Florida cavalry company, Capt. A.W. Hunter.  
Florida cavalry company, Capt. A.C. Smith.  
Partisan Rangers (one company), Capt. W.J. Robinson.  
Leon (Florida) Light Artillery, Capt. R.H. Gamble.  
1st Georgia (regulars), Col. William J. Magill.  
64th Georgia, Col. John W. Evans.  
Bonaud's (Georgia) Battalion, Capt. A. Bonaud.  
Nisbet's (Georgia) Battalion, Capt. A.S. Hamilton.  
Eufaula Minute Men (Alabama battery), Capt. John Hardy.  
Echols Light Artillery (Georgia battery), Capt. John H. Tiller.  
Georgia Siege Artillery (one company), Capt. C.G. Campbell.

## SEPTEMBER

- 2-3 Boat expedition under Acting Ensign William H. Winslow and Acting Master's Mate Charles A. Edgcomb from U.S.S. *Gem of the Sea*, Acting Lieutenant Irvin B. Baxter, reconnoitered Peace Creek, Florida. The expedition was set in motion by Baxter because of "reliable information that there was a band of guerrillas, or regulators, as they style themselves, organizing in the vicinity of Peace Creek, with the intention of coming down this harbor [Charlotte Harbor] for the purpose of capturing the refugees on the islands in this vicinity and also the sloop *Rosalie*..." The Union force destroyed buildings used as a depot for blockade runners and a rendezvous for guerrillas as well as four small boats. Baxter reported: "I think this expedition will have a tendency to break up the blockade running and stop the regulators from coming down here to molest the refugees in this vicinity."  
(CWNC: pg III-136)
- 7 Captain Mahlon M. Young, USA, Seventh Vermont Volunteers, commanding a party of 25 men departed Fort Barrancas for Pensacola, Florida. He ordered Lieutenant Jackson V. Parker

to go to the Old Spanish Fort, and remain there while Captain Young with 4 men reconnoitered the city. Lieutenant Parker went to Fort McClellan and the party did not rejoin until the next day. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 746)

Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding District of Middle Florida, departed Tallahassee, Florida, for Atlanta, Georgia for duty to "organize the Georgia militia, and such of the local force of that State as have been ordered to that point by the ... Governor of Georgia [Joe Brown]."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 348-349)

- 8     Scouting party under command of Captain Mahlon M. Young, USA, and Lieutenant Jackson V. Parker, USA, Seventh Vermont Regiment, from Fort Barrancas, Florida, captured two Confederate officers and six privates at the house of J. Morino, Vice-Consul of Spain, in Pensacola, Florida. Also present under a flag of truce, when the capture occurred, was Captain Thomas F. Wade, USN, of the U.S. bark Arthur, blockading off Pensacola. See Appendix 8-30 September 1863, for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 742-743)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, assumed command of the District of Middle Florida, in addition to his own command of the District of East Florida, during the absence of Brigadier General Howell Cobb. Headquarters of the two Districts at Lake City, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 348)

Fort Wagner, near Charleston, South Carolina, captured by Union.

- 10    Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P.G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated the District of Middle Florida with 2,758 men; and the District of East Florida with 1,943 men aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 356)

*Abstract from return of the army in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for the period ending September 10, 1863;  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	Aggregate last return.
	Officers.	Men.					
District of Middle Florida .....	85	1,755	1,853	2,286	2,758	—	2,911
District of East Florida .....	56	1,054	1,076	1,300	1,943	12	1,955
Total. ....	141	2,809	2,929	3,586	4,701	12	4,866



- 13 U.S.S. *De Soto*, Captain William M. Walker, captured steamer, *Montgomery* in the Gulf of Mexico south of Pensacola, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-140)
- 16 U.S.S. *San Jacinto*, Lieutenant Commander Ralph Chandler, captured blockade running steamer *Lizzie Davis* off the west coast of Florida. She had been bound from Havana, Cuba, to Mobile with cargo including lead.  
(CWNC: pg III-140)
- 17 Colonel William C. Holbrook, USA, commanding Fort Barrancas, Florida, responded to the letter dated 8 September from the Spanish Vice-Consul, J. Morina, in which he lodged his objection to the capture of the Confederate officers and men at his home on 8 September, by indicating after a review of the facts "I find that the party captured displayed no flag of truce, nor [did] they claim to have been under the protection of such flag." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 744)
- 19-20 Major General William S. Rosecrans, USA, defeated by Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA, at Battle of Chickamauga, Tennessee.
- 21 Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding Department of the Gulf, wrote a protest to Colonel William C. Holbrook, USA, commanding Fort Barrancas, Florida, over the capture of men from his command, and demanded their return. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 745)
- 22 Spanish Vice-Consul, J. Morino, responded to the 17 September letter from Colonel William C. Holbrook, USA, Commanding Fort Barrancas, Florida, regarding the capture of the Confederate officers and men on the eighth of September. He stated "I can know no distinction between Federals and Confederates; they are alike entitled to protection when under my flag." See Appendix 8-30 September 1863, for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 744)
- 25 President Davis informed Florida Governor John Milton that Colonel Josiah Gorgas, CSA, Chief of Ordnance, had been directed to furnish "2,000 Austrian arms" to Brigadier General Cobb, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, and that Colonel Gorgas reported he could also furnish by 1 October two or three heavy guns, to be used to hold Apalachicola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 454)
- 26 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Districts of East Florida and Middle Florida, upon receipt of authorization

to grant general amnesty to deserters, allowing them "to join organizations in Florida not exceeding 4 in any one company," sent Confederate States Marshall E. E. Blackburn and Captain P. B. Bird, CSA, Second Battalion Infantry, to confer with the ringleaders of a group called "Cokers" in Taylor County, Florida. See Appendix 5 & 7 October 1863 for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 401-403)

- 27 U.S.S. Clyde, Acting Master A. A. Owens, seized schooner **Amaranth** near the Florida Keys with cargo including cigars and sugar.  
(CWNC: pg III-143)

- 29 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Districts of East and Middle Florida, notified by Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, that "the enemy [was] sending one regiment to Fernandina and one to St. Augustine, Florida, 1,500 men in all. Be on alert."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 384)

- 30 Colonel William C. Holbrook, USA, commanding Fort Barrancas, Florida, answered Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding the Department of the Gulf, at Mobile, Alabama, declining his demand for return of his men captured at the home of the Spanish Vice-Consul, J. Morino on the eighth of September. See Appendix 8-30 September 1863, for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 745)

U.S.S. **Rosalie**, Acting Master Peter F. Coffin, seized British schooner **Director** attempting to run the blockade at Sanibel River, Florida, with cargo of salt and rum.  
(CWNC: pg III-143)

Report from the Department of the South, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, indicated Fernandina had 16 officers and 343 men present for duty; and St. Augustine, had 11 officers and 316 men present for duty. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 102)

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Q.A. Gillmore, U.S. Army, commanding, for September, 1863; headquarters Folly Island.*

Command.	Present.				Pieces of artillery.			
	For duty.		Sick.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Heavy.	Field.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.				
Fernandian (Plaisted) .....	16	343	2	68	521	640	—	—
Saint Augustine (Strickland) .....	11	316	—	20	450	576	—	—
Total .....	27	659	2	88	971	1,216	—	—

#### TRANSFERS.

24th Massachusetts, from Morris Island to Saint Augustine.

# OCTOBER

- 1 Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and  
Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding,  
indicated the District of Middle Florida with 2,757 men; and  
the District of East Florida with 1,943 men aggregate present  
and absent. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 385)
- 3 Mr. Thomas Orman on the steamer **Munnerlyn**, with three other  
small sloop boats upon ascending the Apalachicola River,  
informed Colonel William J. Magill, CSA, commanding the First  
Georgia [regulars] assigned to one of the batteries on the  
Apalachicola River in the District of Middle Florida, that  
"loyal citizens" in Apalachicola, Florida, were near  
starvation because of the obstructions in the river channel  
which prevented them from obtaining food from the up-river  
country. He indicated the "obstructions [were] .... useless  
work, so far as intending to obstruct the passage of the  
enemy's gunboats; ... [because] ... they have not been able to  
force their lightest draught boats over a mud-flat obstruction  
formed by the tides and currents of the river and bay below  
Apalachicola." Mr. Orman, requested that the one remaining  
channel still open, Moccasin Creek, be left unobstructed for  
them to "obtain corn and meal for our support."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 389-390)
- 5 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of  
East Florida and temporarily the District of Middle Florida,  
reported five companies in the District of Middle Florida, had  
been reduced to the maximum allowed by law, the surplus being

*Abstract from return of the army in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for the period ending October 1, 1863;  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty.					Pieces of artillery
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	
District of Middle Florida .....	84	1,755	1,853	2,285	2,757	—
District of East Florida .....	56	1,054	1,076	1,300	1,943	12
Total .....	140	2,809	2,929	3,585	4,700	12

formed into new companies, and requested authorization to reduce and reorganize the cavalry companies serving in the District of East Florida. Forwarded approved by Major General P. T. G. Beauregard, CSA, and approved by Confederate Secretary of War, 17 October 1863.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 395-397)

Confederate States Marshall E. E. Blackburn and Captain P.B. Bird, CSA, Second Battalion Infantry, sent by Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Districts of East and Middle Florida, to meet with ringleaders of the deserter group "Cokers" in Taylor County, reported the ringleaders refused to meet with them, and they proposed that appropriate military action to be taken against the group and other smaller sets of deserters in Taylor and La Fayette County, Florida. See Appendix 5 and 7 October 1863 for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 401-403)

- 6 U.S.S. Beauregard, Acting Master Francis Burgess, captured sloop Last Trial at Key West with cargo of salt.  
(CWNC: pg III-144)

Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, ordered to Quincy, Florida, to assume command of the District of Middle Florida, previously held by Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, and now commanded in conjunction with the District of East Florida, by Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, from Lake City, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 397)

- 7 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Districts of East and Middle, forwarded a report on the expedition to meet with and grant amnesty to deserters in Taylor County, Florida. See Appendix 5 and 7 October 1863 for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, vol 28, Part II, pg 402)

- 8 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, assigned to command District of Pensacola, headquarters Fort Barrancas, Pensacola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 756)

Colonel William J. Magill, CSA, commanding First Georgia [regulars] in the District of Middle Florida, reported he concurred with the request of Mr. Thomas Orman, a citizen of Apalachicola, Florida, [see 3 October] not to close Moccasin Creek, a branch off the Apalachicola River. Colonel Magill indicated the closing of the creek would not add materially to the defense of the obstructions at the Narrows. He further indicated that Brigadier General Howell Cobb, CSA, commanding District of Middle Florida, before he departed for Atlanta, approved the placement of a force "at Fort Gadsden, an eligible point, 25 miles below the obstructions.... and the

erection ... of a [battery for guns] ... which could be spared ... from Hammock Landing and from the obstructions." But the guns had not been installed. Colonel Magill concluded that "as the enemy can only ascend in launches ... this arrangement afforded greater protection to the river than the obstructions," urged the adoption of these measures, and "for the purposes of communication and supplies ... to keep open either Moccasin Creek or Virginia River."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 404-405)

- 9 Captain J. C. Chambers, CSA, commanding a Florida Company in the District of East Florida, ordered to reoccupy Bay Point, Florida, and "hold the place at all hazards until relieved."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 407)
- 12 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida, "authorized and directed to employ all the force at [his] disposition ... to capture, or slay and destroy, the deserters ... banded together in Taylor County, Florida."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 413)

- 14 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of Pensacola, Florida, requested "a light-draught side-wheel steamer" in order to adequately confront and eliminate the three small Confederate camps near Pensacola.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 818)

Captain John Westcott, CSA, Company A, Second Florida Battalion, assumed command of Fort Brooke, Tampa, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 735)

- MID Brigadier General James H. Clanton, CSA, commanding at Pollard, Alabama, while on reconnaissance entered Pensacola with 300 cavalry.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 834)

- 15 U.S.S. *Honduras*, Acting Master Abraham N. Gould, seized British steamer *Mail* near St. Petersburg, Florida. She had been bound from Bayport to Havana, Cuba, with a cargo of cotton and turpentine. The capture was made after a 3-hour chase in which U.S.S. *Two Sisters*, *Sea Bird*, and *Fox* also participated.  
(CWNC: pg III-147)

U.S.S. *Tahoma*, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, and U.S.S. *Adela*, Acting Lieutenant Louis N. Stodder, arrived above Gadsden's Point, Tampa Bay, Florida, under orders from Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey to seize the blockade runners *Scottish Chief* and *Kate Dale*, being loaded with cotton and nearly ready to sail from the Hillsboro River.  
(CWNC: III-148; WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 735)

Florida Governor John Milton, wrote Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, relaying his fear that "closing of Moccasin Creek will expose to famine nearly 500 person in Apalachicola, Florida .... and the obstructions will afford to Columbus [Georgia] very slight, if any, means of defense, and to ... Florida none whatever." Governor Milton advocated the occupation of Apalachicola, Florida, "to prevent the enemy from getting a foothold ... to overrun and control Western Florida." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 451-453)

- 16 **U.S.S. Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, and **U.S.S. Adela**, Acting Lieutenant Louis N. Stodder, to divert attention from the real object of the expedition, shelled Fort Brooke and Tampa, Florida. At night a boat crew of 100 men landed at Ballast Point, a point on old Tampa Bay, a distance from Fort Brooke and marched 14 miles [drawing a boat two miles then abandoned it] to the steamers **Scottish Chief** and **Kate Dale** at anchor in the Hillsboro River.  
(CWNC: III-148; WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 735)

- 17 At daylight, a landing party from the **U.S.S. Tahoma** and **U.S.S. Adela**, boarded the blockade runners, **Scottish Chief** and **Kate Dale** in the Hillsboro River, near Fort Brooke, Tampa, Florida. Two crew members escaped and alerted the garrison. The Union sailors destroyed the **Scottish Chief** and **Kate Dale**. Confederates burned the Federal barge **A. B. Noyes**. A running battle ensued as they returned to their launch boats and the two ships. Losses: Union: 5 killed, 10 wounded, and 5 prisoners, 1 died of wounds. Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, **U.S.S. Tahoma**, noted: "I regret sincerely our loss, yet I feel a great degree of satisfaction in having impressed the rebels with the idea that blockade-running vessels are not safe, even up the Hillsboro River."  
(CWNC: pg III-148; WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 735)

Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, USA, became overall commander of Union forces in the West.

- 18 Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, **U.S.S. Tahoma**, under a flag of truce inquired about his men taken prisoner at Fort Brooke, Florida, Captain John Westcott, CSA, Company A, Second Florida Battalion, commanding. Ships departed.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 735)

Colonel, and Chief Engineer, D. B. Harris, CSA, submitted a trace map of the Apalachicola River with tributaries, showing the position of Confederate batteries, and obstructions. He objected to the plan of Colonel William J. Magill, CSA, [8 October] to leave Moccasin Creek unobstructed, and remove guns to Fort Gadsden, and advised that the original plan proposed



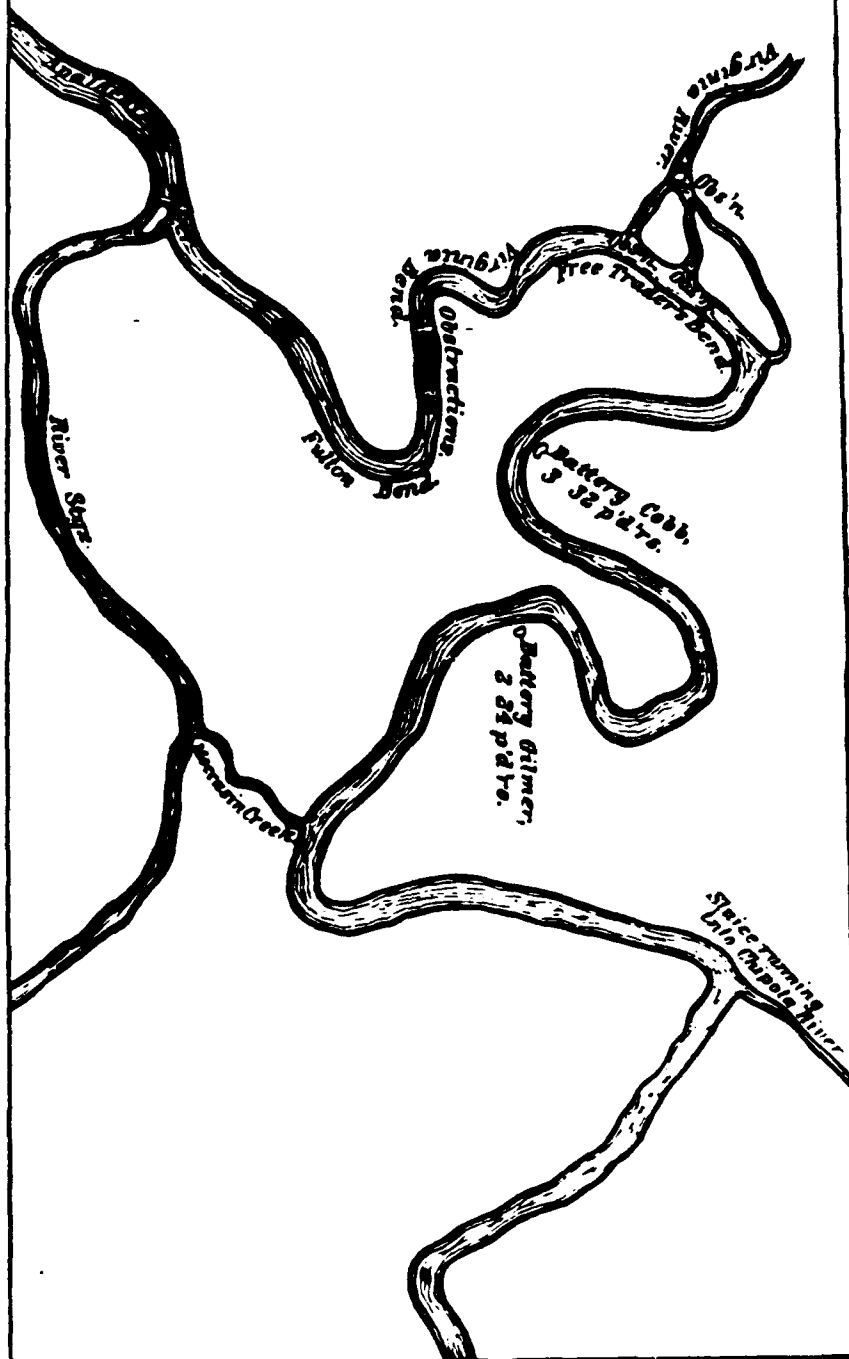
by Captain of Engineers, Theodore Moreno, CSA, for the defense of the Apalachicola and Chattahoochee Rivers not be altered. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 423-425)

INSERT MAP OF APALACHICOLA RIVER, WOR: SER I  
VOL 28, PART II, PG 425.

- 20 **U.S.S. Annie**, Acting Ensign James S. Williams, seized blockade running British schooner **Martha Jane** off Bayport, Florida, bound to Havana, Cuba, with cargo of some 26,600 pounds of sea island cotton.  
(CWNC: pg III-149)

Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding,

18 OCT 1863



indicated in the District of Middle Florida 4,167 men, and in the District of East Florida 2,020 men, aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 434)

- 23 **U.S.S. Norfolk Packet**, Acting Ensign George W. Wood, captured schooner **Ocean Bird** off St. Augustine Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-149)
  
- 27 Major General J. F. Gilmer, CSA, Second in Command, in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, reported to Major General Beauregard, commanding, on the request [15 October] of Florida Governor John Milton not to obstruct Moccasin Creek, and to occupy and hold Apalachicola. General Gilmer recommended Moccasin Creek be closed, the batteries at the Narrows be retained [over moving them to Fort Gadsden], and "a road be built from a point opposite Battery Cobb to a point just below the obstructions in the main channel for transporting supplies to points below." General Beauregard referred the information to Governor Milton. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 450-451)
  
- 28 Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, arrived in Quincy, Florida, to assume command of the District of Middle Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 482)
  
- 29 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of Pensacola, ordered to raise a regiment of cavalry upon arrival at Pensacola, Florida.

*Abstract from return of the army in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for the period ending October 20, 1863,  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty					Pieces of artillery
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	
District of Middle Florida .....	105	1,757	1,877	2,592	4,167	—
District of East Florida .....	81	1,313	1,346	1,565	2,020	8
Total .....	186	3,070	3,223	4,157	6,187	8

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 780-781)

Major C. McClenaghan, CSA, Commissary of Subsistence, after completing an inspection trip to ascertain the status of beef cattle shipments from Florida to the Confederate armies of Major Generals Beauregard and Bragg, filed a detailed report on the cattle industry in Florida. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 459-462)

- 30 **U.S.S. Annie**, Acting Ensign James S. Williams, seized blockade running British schooner **Meteor** off Bayport, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-151)

Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, assumed command of the District of Middle Florida, then departed for Lake City to meet with Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 482)

Report for the Department of the South, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding, indicated Fernandina with 27 officers and 594 men present for duty; and St. Augustine, with 23 officers and 491 men present for duty. See Charts for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 116)

**NOVEMBER**

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South. Maj. Gen. Q.A. Gillmore, U.S. Army, commanding, for October, 1863; headquarters Folly Island.*

Station and command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Fernandina (Guss) .....	27	594	753	825	—	—
Saint Augustine (Osborn) .....	23	491	715	818	—	—
Total .....	50	1,085	1,468	1,643	—	—

#### TRANSFERS.

10th Connecticut ordered, October 28, from Morris Island to Saint Augustine.

11th Maine arrived at Morris Island October 8, from Fernandina.

48th New York from Saint Augustine, four companies to Beaufort and four to Hilton Head.

97th Pennsylvania left Morris Island October 2, for Fernandian.

- 1 Report of troops and guns in the Military Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida with 2,134 men; and Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida with 1,074 men. Organization of troops and the estimate of Infantry in the Department gives the location of companies in the Districts of East Florida and Middle Florida. See Charts for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 111; Part II, pg 469-470)

- 2 Major P. W. White, CSA, Chief Commissary, sent a "confidential circular to the principal men in various sections of Florida," and invoked their "aid and co-operation with purchasing commissaries and Government agents [Confederate and State] in their districts .... [to put] into operation some system by which [Confederate] armies [could] be more promptly supplied." He described the "perilous condition" of the Confederate armies of Major General Beauregard and Bragg for want of food, especially beef cattle, and because "all other resources [were] exhausted" indicated the armies "looked almost solely to Florida to supply one entire article of subsistence." This

*Return of troops and guns in the Military Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, November 1, 1863.*

Command.	Effectives.						Guns.				Total infantry required for the proper defense.
	Infantry.	Companies of light artillery.	Light artillery.	Companies of heavy artillery.	Heavy artillery.	Cavalry.	Total.	Artillery in position.	Field artillery.	Total.	
District of Middle Florida, Brig. Gen. Gardner .....	1,485	2	167	1	—	482	2,134	5	8	13	1,500
District of East Florida, Brig. Gen. Finegan .....	470	3	140	—	—	464	1,074	40	8	8	2,500
Total .....	1,955	5	307	1	—	946	3,208	45	16	21	4,000

*Organization of Troops, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
1 November 1863.*

**DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan.

2d Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. T.W. Brevard.  
2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Lieut. Col.  
A.H. McCormick.  
6th Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. John M. Martin.

Florida Cavalry and Infantry (three companies). \*  
Milton Light Artillery, Company A, Capt. J.L. Dunham.  
Milton Light Artillery, Company B, Capt. H.F. Abell.

**DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. William M. Gardner.

2d Florida Cavalry (five companies),  
Col. Caraway Smith.  
4th Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. J.F. McClellan.  
5th Florida Cavalry Battalion, Maj. G.W. Scott.  
Partisan Rangers (Florida), Capt. W.J. Robinson.  
Florida Cavalry Company, Capt. A.W. Hunter.

Florida Cavalry Company, Capt. A.C. Smith.  
1st Georgia (Regulars), Col. William J. Magill.  
28th Georgia Battalion, Capt. A. Bonaud.  
64th Georgia, Col. John W. Evans.  
Echols Artillery, Capt. John H. Tiller.  
Georgia Siege Artillery, Capt. C.G. Campbell.  
Leon Artillery, Capt. R.H. Gamble.

\* One company (cavalry) under Capt. W.H. Cone and two (infantry) under Capt. B.L. Reynolds.

*Return and estimate of Infantry in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia,  
and Florida, 1 November 1863.*

Command.	Estimated for by Lieutenant-General Pemberton, September 24, 1862.	Effectives on July 10 1863.	Effectives on November 10, 1863.	Estimated for by General Beauregard, November 1, 1863.
District of Middle Florida *	—	1,367	1,485	1,500
District of East Florida *	—	473	470	2,500



report came into Federal hands at Sanderson, Florida, on February 11, 1864. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 471-474)

Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding District of Middle Florida, returned to Quincy, Florida, from meeting with Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida, at Lake City.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 482)

- 5 **U.S.S. Beauregard**, Acting Master Francis Burgess, seized blockade running British schooner **Volante** off Cape Canaveral, Florida, with cargo including salt and dry goods.  
(CWNC: pg III-153)
- 7 Cutter from **U.S.S. Sagamore**, Lieutenant Commander Charles E. Fleming, captured blockade running British schooner **Paul** off Bayport, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-153)
- 8 Major [Chief of Artillery Department of West Florida], redesignated District of Middle Florida, M. Stanley, CSA, arrived at the obstructions on the Apalachicola River, and found Captain Blount and his company of Bonaud's Battalion in charge. He described the defenses at the obstructions consisted of "two earthworks [and] the obstructions, of wooden piles locked together, chains stretched across the rivers, and a sunken hulk, all covered with drift-wood, and presenting a formidable obstacle to any enemy attempting to ascend the river." Major Stanley visited and described the lower earthworks at Battery Cobb, the upper defenses at Battery Gilmer, and a four gun position placed to command the mouth of Moccasin Creek. See Appendix 16 November 1863, for full text, also see trace map of the Apalachicola River 18 October 1863.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 506-509)
- 11 Major [Chief of Artillery Department of West Florida], redesignated District of Middle Florida, M. Stanley, CSA, on inspection of batteries and obstructions on the Apalachicola River, arrived at Camp Scott, then proceeded 6 miles to the battery at Hammock Landing, under the command of Captain Hill, CSA, and five companies of the First Georgia Regulars [160 men]. See Appendix 16 November 1863, for full text, also see trace map of the Apalachicola River 18 October 1863.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 506-509)
- 14 **U.S.S. Bermuda**, Acting Lieutenant J. W. Smith, recaptured schooner **Mary Campbell** after she had been seized earlier the same day by Confederates under command of Master James Duke, CSN, whose daring exploits five months before (8 June 1863) had resulted in the capture of a Union ship near New Orleans.

**Bermuda** also took an unnamed lugger which the Confederates had used to capture **Mary Campbell**. The captures took place off Pensacola after the ships had come out of the Perdido River under Duke's command. Lieutenant Smith reported that "... the notorious James Duke... also captured the **Norman**, with which vessel he, with 10 of his crew, had made for the land upon my heaving in sight, and I have reason to believe that he beached and burned her..."  
(CWNC: pg III-155)

- 15 Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated the District of Middle Florida, with 3,790 men; and the District of East Florida, with 2,318 men aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 505)

- 17 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, reported that the Suwannee River [at Clay Landing], and Bayport, were the most eligible points in East Florida for "ports favorable for the resort of a small class of sea-going steamer," both having "been frequently resorted to by vessels running the blockade." He further indicated that "Indian River, on the Atlantic ... may afford more water, but [was] more remote," and because of no provisions, there was a problem with sustaining "troops on the east side of the St. Johns River."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II. pg 511)
- 19 President Abraham Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.
- 21 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding troops in West Florida, at Pensacola, informed that Confederates

*Abstract from return of the army in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for November 15, 1863:  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty.			Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.			
District of Middle Florida (Gardner) .....	112	1,516	1,685	2,350	3,790	—
District of East Florida (Finegan) .....	75	1,035	1,074	1,259	2,318	8
Total .....	187	2,551	2,759	3,609	6,108	8

intended "to make a serious attack on his position early in the coming week."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 813)

- 23 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of Pensacola, reported "the nearest permanent rebel camps are at Pollard, Alabama, and Camp Hunter, Florida, 9 miles from [Pollard] on the Mobile Railroad, with headquarters of General James H. Clanton, CSA, ... with three smaller advanced camps, one between Escambia and Perdido Rivers, not far from Pensacola; one east of Escambia River, 7 miles above Floridatown; and the third, west of the Perdido River, near Neuneces Ferry, on the Blakely road....The encampment east of the Escambia River numbers only 120 to 140 cavalry, and has its pickets at Milton, Bagdad, Parces, and Floridatown..." General Asboth considered it "most important to clear the Perdido and Escambia Bays, and break up and capture those three advanced rebel camps, but [indicated] this could only be done successfully by boats." He renewed his request for two steamers instead of one [14 Oct 1863] "of not more than 3 1/2 to 4 feet draught of water, be ordered to this district." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 818)

Confederate cavalry visited Pensacola, Florida, under a flag of truce.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 821)

- 24 Confederate scouts from Perdido Bay reconnoitered Union pickets at Fort Barrancas, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 821)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of Pensacola, ordered all commanders of brigades and forts to report "on the advantages and weak points of their respective positions, and give their suggestions as to improvements." He further ordered the signal of alarm would be the "firing of two blanks in rapid succession from any of the guns at Fort Barrancas or the redoubt." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 821)

- 24-25 Union victory at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Grant (U) v. Bragg (C).

- 25 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of Pensacola, reported information from Pensacola indicated Confederate troops were "returning from Chattanooga in considerable numbers, advancing from Pollard [Alabama] on the Pensacola Railroad, about 14 miles from Pensacola, and throwing up extensive fortifications." He considered such movement "more defensive than offensive ... [as a] preparatory to an anticipated combined attack of the Union forces upon

Mobile, and [his] advance upon the Mobile and Montgomery Railroad."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 821)

- 27 **U.S.S. Two Sisters**, Acting Master Charles H. Rockwell, seized blockade running schooner **Maria Alberta** near Bayport, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-159)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of Pensacola, Florida, visited Pensacola on the steamer **George Peabody**, placed three companies of infantry in the town, examined the fortified line and reconnoitered the neighboring country. He reported the "only disadvantage to the present fortifications is a hill, called the Old Spanish Fort, commanding Fort Arnold." He also visited J. Morino, the Spanish Vice-Consul; "he is the father-in-law of [Stephen R.] Mallory, the [Confederate] Secretary of the Navy at Richmond; has two sons in the rebel army; contributed \$25,000 to Jeff. Davis' Cabinet, and claims Pensacola as neutral ground, against which I politely protested."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 834)

- 30 Major E. A. McWhorter, CSA, with scouting party of 150 cavalry visited Pensacola, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 834)

Report of the Department of the South, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding, indicated Fernandina had 32 officers and 811 men present for duty; and St. Augustine had 40 officers and 906 men present for duty. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 125)

## DECEMBER

- 1 Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding,

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Q.A. Gillmore, U.S. Army, commanding, for November, 1863; headquarters Folly Island, S.C.*

Station and command.	Present for duty.				Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Heavy.	Field.
Fernandina (Guss) .....	32	811	1,021	1,080	—	—
Saint Augustine (Osborn) .....	40	906	1,280	1,446	—	—
Total .....	72	1,717	2,301	2,526	—	—

indicated the District of Middle Florida with 3,794 men; and the District of East Florida, with 2,398 men aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 531)

- 2 Boat expedition from U.S.S. *Restless*, Acting Master William R. Browne, reconnoitered Lake Ocala, Florida. Finding salt works in the area, the Union forces destroyed them. "They were in the practice of turning out 130 bushels of salt daily." Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey, USN, reported: "Besides destroying these boilers, a large quantity of salt was thrown into the lake, 2 large flatboats, and 6 ox carts were demolished, and 17 prisoners were taken..."  
(CWNC: pg III-160)

- 5 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of Pensacola, Florida, reported "he felt confirmed ...that the lively movements of rebel forces on the Mobile and Pensacola Railroad [were] defensive only."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 833)

Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding the Department of the Gulf, learned there was "in Brigadier General James H. Clanton's, [CSA], brigade an organized plan for desertion." The organization referred to itself as the "Peace Society." He ordered the regiments moved to Montgomery, and requested they be placed "in active field service, far away from their homes, and distribute his regiments among other troops." On the same day "60 men of a picket of 300, on duty within 15 miles of Pensacola, [at Gonzales] laid down their arms." General Maury reported "The fact is established that an organized opposition to the war exists in our midst; that a secret association has been formed in the army, and with many members in the country, seeking peace on any terms."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part II, pg 551-552)

- 8 President Abraham Lincoln issued proclamation of amnesty and proposals for reconstruction.

*Abstract from return of the army in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for December 1, 1863;  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty.					
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery
District of Middle Florida (Gardner) .....	117	1,516	1,685	2,355	3,794	—
District of East Florida (Finegan) .....	84	995	1,032	1,253	2,398	8
Total .....	201	2,511	2,717	3,608	6,192	8



- 14 Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding District of Key West and Tortugas, proposed "to establish a small post on Charlotte Harbor to enlist [refugees that deserted from the Confederate Army and men hiding to avoid conscription, lurking in the woods between Charlotte Harbor and Lake Okeechobee],... to break up or check the cattle-driving business..." He indicated he had a "native troop" of nineteen men, "refugees from the State of Florida" which proposed to take the name the "Florida Rangers." And, subject to approval, General Woodbury appointed "Enoch Daniels captain, and Zachariah Brown first lieutenant of the first company to be raised" ... and requested authority to operate on the coast of Florida at his own discretion."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 856)

Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, on the subject of black troops derived from the States of Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida, indicated to Major General Henry W. Halleck, General-in-Chief, USA, that: 1. ... "in forming them into regiments, they should be designated as United States colored regiments, with the appropriate numbers.... 2. A board for the examination of candidates for commissions in colored regiments should be appointed in this department. 3. The pay of the white soldier and of the colored soldier should be the same.... 4. The families of colored soldiers should be provided for by allowing them to locate upon and cultivate land in advance of the regular survey and sale thereof."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 127-128)

- 15 Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, proposed an operation in Florida "to recover all the most valuable portion of [the State], cut off a rich source of the enemy's supplies, and increase the number of my colored troops," in the event the "conditions of affairs before Charleston," South Carolina, were not achieved.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 129)

- 16 U.S.S. *Ariel*, Acting Master William H. Harrison, captured sloop *Magnolia* off the west coast of Florida. She was inbound from Havana, Cuba, with cargo of spirits and medicines.

(CWNC: pg III-165)

- 17 U.S.S. *Roebuck*, Acting Master John Sherrill, seized blockade running British schooner *Ringdove* off Indian River, Florida, with cargo including salt, coffee, tea, and whiskey.

(CWNC: pg III-165)

Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, ordered not to permit "subsistence stores needed for the [Confederate] army to be removed from ... or sold out of the limits of [his] command."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 561)

Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding District of Key West and Tortugas, sent Lieutenant James F. Meyers, USA, Forty-seventh Pennsylvania, commanding a small detachment of 29 newly enlisted men, mostly refugees from Florida, and 7 men from the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania, to Charlotte Harbor, "to commence a nucleus of operations in that neighborhood." He reported "two thousand head of cattle are reported driven out of Florida every week for the use of the rebel forces. Probably half of these cattle are driven from Middle and Lower Florida." Included in his report was an article from a Florida newspaper titled "Instructions to commissary officers and agents" giving detailed instructions for driving cattle and taking care of them. Another section read:

"The utmost promptness, energy, and industry are required of every agent and his assistants to secure all the surplus supplies of the country; otherwise the armies in the field cannot be fed. As Florida is now, next to Georgia, the most productive State remaining to the Confederacy, much depends upon the activity of the Government agents within her bounds."

He retracted his prior recommendation for Enoch Daniels to command the native enlisted troops of Florida ... and recommended that Henry A. Crane, Acting Master's Mate, U.S.S. Dale "who enjoys the full confidence of Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey," be appointed captain. He was subsequently appointed captain of Second Regiment, Florida Rangers.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 873-875)

- 19 Expedition under Acting Master William R. Browne, comprising U.S.S. **Restless**, **Bloomer**, and **Caroline**, proceeded up St. Andrews Bay, Florida, to continue the destruction of salt works. A landing party went ashore under Bloomer's guns and destroyed those works not already demolished by the Southerners when reports of the naval party were received. Browne was able to report that he had "cleared the three arms of this extensive bay of salt works... Within the past ten days," he added, "290 salt works, 33 covered wagons, 12 flatboats, 2 sloops [5 tons each] 6 ox carts, 4,000 bushels of salt, 268 buildings at the different salt works, 529 iron kettles averaging 150 gallons each, 105 iron boilers for boiling brine [were destroyed], and it is believed that the enemy destroyed as many more to prevent us from doing so." (CWNC: pg III-165)
- 20 U.S.S. **Fox**, Acting Master George Ashbury, captured steamer **Powerful** at the mouth of Suwannee River, Florida. The steamer had been abandoned by her crew on the approach of the Union ship, and, unable to stop a serious leak, Ashbury ordered the

blockade runner destroyed.  
(CWNC: pg III-166)

Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated the District of East Florida with 2,478 men, and the District of Middle Florida with 3,790 men aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 567)

- 22 Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, in response to his request of 14 December, was authorized --- "1. to enlist and organize all the colored troops that can be recruited within his department, ... in accordance with the rules and regulations of the service and of the War Department.... 2. ... to appoint a board for the examination of white persons to officer [black troops] raised by him... 3. The troops so raised may consist of infantry, cavalry, and artillery ... their pay and allowance to be in accordance with the act of Congress and the rules and regulations of the service respecting colored troops; but a bounty may be allowed.... 4. All other authority for raising colored troops within [his] department... shall be subject to [his] direction. 5. [He] is authorized ... to procure recruits from Key West, or in the States of Georgia, Florida, and Alabama, not, however, so as to interfere with the engineer service at Key West. 6. All the colored troops now in the Department of the South, or that may be recruited therein... may be organized in such brigades, divisions, and corps as General Gillmore may deem most advantageous to the service... 7. The colored troops to be called United States troops, and numbered by regiments in consecutive order as organized."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 135)

- 24 U.S.S. **Sunflower**, Acting Master Edward Van Sice, captured

*Abstract from return of the army in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for December 20, 1863;  
headquarters Charleston, S. C.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
District of Middle Florida (Gardner) .....	139	1,707	1,827	2,384	3,790	—
District of East Florida (Finegan) .....	95	1,082	1,106	1,326	2,478	8
Total .....	234	2,789	2,933	3,710	6,268	8

blockade runner **Hancock** near the lighthouse at Tampa Bay, Florida, with cargo including salt and borax.  
(CWNC: pg III-167)

**U.S.S. Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, and a small schooner came up Tampa Bay and anchored in front of Fort Brooke, Florida, Captain John Westcott, CSA, Company A, Second Battalion Florida Volunteers, commanding, and fired one shell at the post.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 751)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida, ordered to hold his "infantry in readiness to be sent to Savannah, for temporary service, at a moment's notice."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 577)

Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, ordered to "hold the Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment and First Georgia Regulars in readiness to repair to Savannah at a moment's notice, for temporary and exigent service, with subsistence."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 577)

- 25 **U.S.S. Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander Alexander A. Semmes, keeping out of range of the fort guns, opened fire on Fort Brooke and Tampa, Florida, after the schooner that had accompanied her altered position to the main channel. The schooner shelled the shore. Both ships departed that afternoon.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 751)

- 25-31 Lieutenant John Meyers, USA, commanding at Charlotte Harbor, Florida, sent a scouting party of fifteen men, with three boats and fifteen seamen to man them, Ensign John H. Jenks, USN, commanding, supplied by the **U.S.S. Gem of the Sea**, Acting Lieutenant Irvin B. Baxter, to reconnoiter the mainland. On landing on the north side of Pease Creek, leaving Ensign Jenks and the sailors with the boats, the detachment departed for the interior. Ensign Jenks and the party of sailors guarding the boats were attacked at daylight of the 30th by a force of forty men. Jenks succeeded in retreating with sailors and boats, and returned on the 31st to remove the scouting party, which was hidden on the shore.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 460)

- 27 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of Pensacola, reported that "not only one but several regiments [of cavalry] could be raised in Western Florida." He repeated his request for two small steamers to enable him to scout the interior of the State and to capture isolated Confederate posts near Pensacola, Florida and to bring

refugees from the interior areas. He reported using a private schooner with owner Captain Galloway to go to the East Pass of Pensacola Bay to bring in 25 refugees. Captain Alexander Gibson, USN, commander and senior officer afloat ordered steamer **U.S. Bloomer** to assist Captain Galloway on a second trip from the East Pass and Choctawhatchee Bay. General Asboth also reported withdrawal of the two companies of Confederate cavalry encamped above Floridatown, "as they made preparations to desert en masse."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 886-887)

- 29 Boat crews from **U.S.S. Stars and Stripes**, Acting Master Charles L. Willcomb, destroyed blockade running schooner **Caroline Gertrude**, aground on a bar at the mouth of Ochlockonee River, Florida. Attempting to salvage the schooner's cargo of cotton, the Union sailors were taken under heavy fire by Confederate cavalry ashore and returned to their ship after setting the blockade runner ablaze.  
(CWNC: pg III-168)

Detachment of 71 men from Companies C and H, Second Florida Cavalry, Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding, crossed on east side of the St. Johns River, and marched to Fort Peaton, in the vicinity of St. Augustine, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 753)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, ordered not to "move any infantry from their stations." That Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida would try to do without his troops.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 592)

- 30 Expedition under command of Acting Ensign Norman McLeod from **U.S.S. Pursuit**, destroyed two salt works at the head of St. Josephs Bay, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg III-168)

Lieutenant Oliver H. Walker, USA, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding a detachment of 30 men guarding a party of woodchoppers with four wagons from St. Augustine, Florida, "the supply within the lines having become exhausted," was attacked by a detachment of 71 men from Companies C and H, Second Florida Cavalry, Captain J. J. Dickison, csa, commanding, who had marched from Fort Peaton that morning. Upon hearing of the attack, Colonel F. A. Osborn, USA, commanding U.S. forces at St. Augustine followed up with the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, but the Confederates had withdrawn. Losses: Union: 6 killed and wounded, including Lieutenant Walker, 24 prisoners.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part I, pg 752-754)

- 31 Department of the Gulf, Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, commanding reported District of Key West and Tortugas with 26 officers and 571 men; and District of Pensacola with 52 officers and 909 men, present for duty. The organization of troops indicated companies present in the Districts of Pensacola and of Key West and Tortugas. See Charts for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 26, Part I, pg 892,895-896)

Report from the Department of the South, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding, indicated Fernandina had 33 officers and 824 men present for duty; and St. Augustine had 41 officers and 926 men present for duty. The Organization of Troops report indicated location of companies. See Charts for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 136, 139)

*Abstract from returns of the Department of the Gulf, 31 December 1863.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.		Remarks.
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.	
District of Key West and Tortugas (Woodbury) .....	26	571	999	1,242	—	—	Key West, Fla.
District of Pensacola (Asboth) .....	52	909	1,133	1,225	127	6	Barrancas, Fla.
Total .....	78	1,480	2,132	2,467	127	6	

*Organization of Troops, Department of the Gulf, 31 December 1863.*

**DISTRICT OF PENSACOLA.**

Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth.\*

14th New York Cavalry, Company M, Capt. Adolph Schmidt.

14th Infantry, Corps d'Afrique, Col. Mardon W. Plumly.

2d U.S. Artillery, Battery H, Capt. Frank H. Larned.

2d U.S. Artillery, Battery K, Capt. Henry A. Smalley.

7th Vermont (six companies), Col. William C. Holbrook.

**DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS.**

Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Woodbury.†

47th Pennsylvania (six companies), Col. Tilghman H. Good (Key West).

47th Pennsylvania (four companies), Lieut. Col. George W. Alexander (Tortugas).

Florida Rangers, Lieut. James F. Meyers (Charlotte Harbor).

\*Assigned to command by Special Orders, Nos. 252 and 269, October 8 and 28, Headquarters Department of the Gulf. Assumed command November 9. Colonel Holbrook commanding at Barrancas and Maj. Harvey A. Allen commanding at Fort Pickens.

† Assigned to command March 16, 1863.



Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding indicated the District of Middle Florida with 3,789 men, and the District of East Florida with 2,478 men aggregate present and absent. The organization of troops of the Department indicated the location of companies in the Districts of East Florida and of Middle Florida. See Charts for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 601, 604-605)

**1864**

**JANUARY**

- 3 Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, issued General Orders No. 1, on "the means of transportation in the department ... brigade ordnance train in each district ... excess transportation and ambulances ... and markings of wagons and ambulances." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 28, Part II, pg 428-429)
  - 7 One company Forty-seventh Pennsylvania instructed to seize and take charge of Fort Myers, Florida, by Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding the District of Key West and Tortugas. Three Confederate agents "whose business [was] to purchase from the Indians articles useful to the so-called Confederate States," were captured before they could burn the buildings. Rear Admiral Bailey, USN, commanding the Eastern Gulf Blockading Squadron assisted operations at Charlotte Harbor and Fort Myers, Florida, by placing the gunboat **U.S. Honduras** at the disposal of General Woodbury, and directed Acting Lieutenant Baxter, USN, commanding the three sail gunboats at Charlotte Harbor, "to keep himself in communication with Fort Myers and render all necessary assistance."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 461)
  - 10 Boat crews from **U.S.S. Roebuck**, Acting Master John Sherrill, captured blockade running Confederate sloop **Maria Louise** with cargo of cotton off Jupiter Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-4)
  - 11 **U.S.S. Honeysuckle**, Acting Ensign Cyrus Sears, captured blockade running British schooner **Fly** near Jupiter Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-5)
- Boat crews from **U.S.S. Roebuck**, Acting Master John Sherrill, captured blockade running British schooner **Susan** at Jupiter

Inlet with cargo including salt.  
(CWNC: pg IV-5)

- 12 Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN, arrived in Key West, Florida, and resumed command of the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron, from Commodore Henry H. Bell, USN, pro tem commander, during Farragut's absence.  
(CWNC: pg IV-5)

- 13 Boat crew from U.S.S. **Two Sisters**, Acting Master Thomas Chatfield, captured schooner **William** off Suwannee River, Florida, with cargo of salt, bagging, and rope.  
(CWNC: pg IV-5)

- 14 Small boats from U.S.S. **Roebuck**, Acting Master John Sherrill, chased blockade running British sloop **Young Racer** and forced her aground north of Jupiter Inlet, Florida, with cargo of salt. The sloop was destroyed by her crew.  
(CWNC: pg IV-5)

U.S.S. **Union**, Acting Lieutenant Edward Conroy, captured blockade running steamer **Mayflower** near Tampa Bay, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg IV-7)

- 15 U.S.S. **Beauregard**, Acting Master Francis Burgess, captured blockade running British schooner **Minnie** south of Mosquito Inlet, Florida, with cargo including salt and liquor.  
(CWNC: pg IV-7)

Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, wrote U.S. Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, that he "had in contemplation the occupation of Florida, on the west bank of the St. Johns River, at a very early date."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 276)

- 17 Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN, flagship U.S.S. **Hartford**, commander of the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron, arrived in Pensacola, Florida, from Brooklyn Navy Yard, New York.  
(CWNC: pg VI-51)

- 18 Boat crews from U.S.S. **Roebuck**, Acting Master John Sherrill, captured sloop **Caroline** off Jupiter Inlet, Florida, with cargo of salt, gin, soda, and dry goods.  
(CWNC: pg IV-10)

U.S.S. **Stars and Stripes**, Acting Master Charles L. Willcomb, captured blockade running steamer **Laura** off Ochlockonee River, Florida, with cargo including cigars.  
(CWNC: pg IV-10)

- 19 Boats from **U.S.S. Roebuck**, Acting Master John Sherrill, seized British schooner **Eliza** and sloop **Mary** inside Jupiter Inlet, Florida. Both blockade runners carried cargoes of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg IV-10)

Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN, departed Pensacola on command tour of the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.  
(CWNC: pg VI-51)

- 22 Seized British sloop **Mary**, en route to Key West, commenced leaking, ran aground, and was wrecked. The prize crew and most of the cotton were saved.  
(CWNC: pg IV-10)

Acting Ensign James J. Russell, **U.S.S. Restless**, accompanied by two sailors, captured blockade running schooner **William A. Kain** in St. Andrews Bay, Florida. Russell and his men had intended originally to reconnoiter only, but after discovering and capturing the Captain and several of the crew-members of the blockade runner in the woods near the vessel, he determined to take her himself. Compelling his prisoners to row him out to **Kain**, Russell captured the remaining crew members and managed to sail **Kain** from Watson's Bayou out into the bay and under the protection of **Restless's** guns.  
(CWNC: pg IV-11)

U.S. Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, on the question of an expedition into Florida on the west bank of the St. Johns River, indicated to Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, that "the matter had been left entirely to [his] judgment and discretion, with the means of [his] command..."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 276)

- 25 Colonel William C. Holbrook, USA, commanding twenty men from the Fourteenth New York Cavalry from Fort Barrancas, on an expedition to acquire cattle, skirmished with Confederate cavalry four miles from Bayou Grand, near Pensacola, Florida. Losses: Confederate: 10 captured.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 274)

- 27 List of Confederate General and Staff Officers serving in the Districts of Middle and East Florida within the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 549-552)

*Organization of Troops, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
27 January 1864.*

*Brig. Gen. William M. Gardner, commanding District of Middle Florida.*

First Lieut. J.B. Grant, aide-de-camp.  
Maj. J.L. Cross, assistant adjutant-general.  
Capt. J.C. Rutherford, assistant inspector-general.  
Maj. M. Stanley, chief of artillery.  
First Lieut. S.S. Carlisle, ordnance officer.  
Surg. J.R. Randolph, surgeon.

*Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan, commanding District of East Florida.*

First Lieut. J.R. Finegan, aide-de-camp.  
Capt. W. Call, assistant adjutant-general.  
Col. R.B. Thomas, inspector-general.  
Maj. H.R. Teasdale, brigade quartermaster.  
Maj. A.A. Canova, brigade paymaster.  
First Lieut. T.E. Buckman, ordnance officer.

- 28 U.S.S. **Beauregard**, Acting Master Francis Burgess, seized blockade running British sloop **Racer** north of Cape Canaveral, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg IV-11)

Colonel William J. Magill, CSA, First Georgia Regiment assumed command of the District of Middle Florida, from Brigadier General William M. Gardner, who departed for Augusta, Georgia, for surgery on his leg.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 553)

- 31 Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, indicated the objectives of the forthcoming expedition into "the richest portions between the Suwannee and the St. Johns Rivers," to be: (1) To procure an outlet for cotton, lumber, timber, turpentine, etc. (2) To cut off one of the Confederate sources of commissary supplies, because "he now draws largely upon the herds of Florida for his beef, and is making preparations to take up a portion of the Fernandina and St. Marks Railroad for the purpose of connecting the road from Jacksonville to Tallahassee with Thomasville, on the Savannah, Albany and Gulf Railroad, and perhaps with Albany, on the Southwestern Railroad." (3) To obtain recruits for Union black regiments. (4) To inaugurate measures for "the speedy restoration of Florida to her allegiance, in accordance with instructions from President Lincoln."

"Executive Mansion  
Washington, January 13, 1864

"Major General Gillmore:

"I understand an effort is being made by some worthy gentlemen to reconstruct a loyal State government in Florida. Florida is in your department, and it is not unlikely that you may be there in person. I have given Mr. [John] Hay a commission of major and sent him to you with some blank books and other blanks to aid in the reconstruction. He will explain as to the manner of using the blanks, and also my

general views on the subject. It is desirable for all to co-operate; but if irreconcilable differences of opinion shall arise, you are master. I wish the thing done in the most speedy way possible, so that when done it will be within the range of the late proclamation on the subject. The detail labor, of course, will have to be done by others, but I shall be greatly obliged if you will give it such general supervision as you can find convenient with your more strictly military duties.

"Yours, very truly,

A. LINCOLN."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 276)

- 31 Report of the Department of the South, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding indicated 949 men at Fernandina, and 1,482 men, at St. Augustine, Florida, aggregate present and absent. The organization of troops indicated the companies stationed at Fernandina and St. Augustine. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, pg 463)

*Abstract from returns of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore  
commanding, for January, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.				Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Heavy.	Field.
Seymour's command .....	357	9,725	11,829	15,146	—	—
Fernandina (Guss) .....	29	714	895	949	28	—
Saint Augustine (Osborn) .....	39	987	1,300	1,482	18	—
Total .....	435	11,426	14,024	17,577	46	—

*Troops in the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore,  
U.S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1864.*

**FERNANDINA, FLA.**

Col. Henry R. Guss.

97th Pennsylvania, Col. Henry, R. Guss.

**SAINT AUGUSTINE, FLA.**

Col. Francis A. Osborn.

10th Connecticut, Col. John L. Otis.

24th Massachusetts, Maj. Charles H. Hooper.



Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding, indicated 2,752 men in the District of Middle Florida, and 2,507 men in the District of East Florida, aggregate present and absent. Troop organization report indicated the location of companies in the Districts of Middle Florida and of East Florida. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 557, 560)

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G.T. Beauregard, C.S. Army, commanding, for January, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.					
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
District of Middle Florida .....	105	1,439	1,501	1,937	2,752	—
District of East Florida .....	89	1,178	1,238	1,440	2,507	8
Total .....	194	2,617	2,739	3,377	5,259	8

*Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G.T. Beauregard, C.S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1864.*

**DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. William M. Gardner.

1st Georgia Regulars, Col. William J. Magill.  
2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Col. Caraway Smith.  
4th Battalion Florida Infantry, Maj. James F. McClellan.  
5th Battalion Florida Cavalry, Maj. G.W. Scott.  
Bonaud's (Georgia) Battalion, Maj. A. Bonaud.  
Florida Partisan Rangers, Capt. W.J. Robinson.  
Florida Light Artillery, Capt. Robert H. Gamble.  
Section Tiller's (Georgia) artillery, Lieut. J.G. Gibson.  
Georgia Siege Artillery (one company), Capt. Charles G. Campbell.

**DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. Joseph Finegan.

2d Battalion Florida Infantry, Lieut. Col. T.W. Brevard.  
6th Battalion Florida Infantry, Lieut. Col. John M. Martin.  
Independent Company Florida Infantry, Capt. Jacob C. Eichelberger.  
Independent Company Florida Infantry, Capt. John McNeill.  
Independent Company Florida Infantry, Capt. B.L. Reynolds.  
2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Lieut. Col. A.H. McCormick.  
Company Independent Cavalry, Capt. W.H. Cone.  
Company Independent Cavalry, Capt. J.D. Stark.  
Milton Artillery (Company A), Capt. Joseph L. Dunham.  
Milton Artillery (Company B), Capt. Henry F. Abell.

## **FEBRUARY**

**EARLY-MID** C.S. Congress passed tough war measures - including a new property tax law, attempted to retire some paper currency, new law on impressment of slaves, laws giving government side powers over blockade-running, and renewed authority to suspend habeas corpus.

2-3 Captain Henry A. Crane, USA, Second Florida Cavalry, formally of the Second Regiment of Florida Rangers [native troops], commanding at Fort Myers, Florida, with a detachment of forty men, marched to Twelve-Mile Swamp and "put up ... a cattle-pen." The detachment was attacked by a small party of Confederate cavalry on reconnaissance. Captain Crane continued, reconnoitered the area, and returned to Fort Myers. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 486)

2-5 Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South ordered Major General Truman Seymour, USA, whose command was already embarked at Hilton Head, South Carolina, to command a Florida Expedition and proceed to Jacksonville, Florida, where he was to effect a landing and push forward twenty miles to the junction of the two railroads [from Jacksonville and Fernandina] at Baldwin, Florida. General Gillmore also advised Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren, USN, of the expedition and requested the support of two or three naval gunboats. Admiral Dahlgren promptly detailed small screw steamers U.S.S. *Ottawa* and *Norwich* to convoy the Army troops to Jacksonville, and ordered screw steamer U.S.S. *Dai Chin*, and side-wheelers *Mahaska* and *Water Witch* up the St. Johns River. Admiral Dahlgren went to Florida to take a personal hand in directing his forces to "... keep open the communications by the river and give any assistance to the troops which operations may need ..." General Seymour's command composed of Colonel Barton's brigade, comprising Seventh Connecticut and Seventh New Hampshire Regiments Volunteer Infantry, and the Eighth Regiment U.S. Colored Troops; Montgomery's brigade, comprising Second South Carolina Volunteers [black troops], Third U.S. Volunteers [black troops], Fifty-fourth Massachusetts [black troops] Volunteers; Henry's mounted brigade, comprising Fortieth Regiment

Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and the Independent Battalion Massachusetts Volunteer Cavalry; Langdon's light battery [four pieces], Elder's horse battery [four pieces], one section of James' Rhode Island battery [two pieces]. Further instructions required the men "to carry six days' rations, three of which should be cooked... to carry knapsacks, haversacks, and blankets, and not less than 60 rounds of ammunition per man, leaving the rest to follow. Camp equipage would be left behind, packed up, in the charge of one commissioned officer from each regiment and two enlisted men from each company." Seymour was to take two wagons for "each foot regiment and one wagon for each mounted company, and six days' forage for animals, if possible." Also he was instructed to see that "no females accompanied the command, and to give orders that none should follow except regularly appointed laundresses." Regarding medical supplies he was instructed to "take only a small quantity ... and the steamer **Cosmopolitan**, with a full supply of medical stores, would follow the command."

(CWNC: pg IV-14: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 276, 280)

- 4 A boat crew under command of Acting Master's Mate Henry B. Colby from **U.S.S. Beauregard** captured **Lydia** at Jupiter Narrows, Florida, with small cargo of cotton and turpentine. (CWNC: pg IV-15)

- 5 **U.S.S. De Sota**, Captain Gustavus H. Scott, seized blockade running British steamer **Cumberland** in the Gulf of Mexico south of Santa Rosa Island, Florida, with cargo of arms, gunpowder, and dry goods. (CWNC: IV-15)

Florida Governor John Milton reported that forty-three deserters from the Confederate Army "surrounded and disarmed a party of a cavalry company ... eight miles above Chattahoochee, Florida ... then crossed the river into [Southwest] Georgia." And sought advice on a declaration of martial law in that area of the State.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 564)

- 6 Army steamer **Island City** with a canoe in tow, transported four men from Mayport, Florida, up the St. Johns River to Trout Creek, to go inland and cut telegraph wires and burn a railroad bridge. Arms, rations, and a quantity of spirits of turpentine were furnished by the **U.S.S. Ottawa** and **Norwich**. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 476)

- 7-8 **U.S.S. Norwich**, Acting Master Frank B. Meriam, USN, proceeded from Jacksonville, Florida, up the St. Johns River, anchored off McGirt's Creek, and trapped steamer **St. Marys** trapped in McGirt's Creek, to prevent it from moving up the St. Johns. On the 8th, withdrawing Confederate forces sunk the **St. Marys**

and burned the 270 bales of cotton on board.

(CWNC: pg IV-15: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 476-477)

- 7-9 With U.S.S. Ottawa, Norwich, Dai Chin, Mahaska, and Water Witch, deployed according to Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren's, USN, instructions. Soldiers, under the command of Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the Florida Expedition, landed and reoccupied Jacksonville, Florida. On the night of the 8th Colonel Guy V. Henry, USA, commanding, moved into the interior, surprised and captured five guns of Companies A and B, Milton Light Artillery, three miles in the rear of Camp Finegan, and reached Baldwin, Florida on the 9th. Confederates evacuated Baldwin. Lieutenant Colonel Abner H. McCormick, CSA, commanding Confederate troops at Camp Finegan, seven miles from Jacksonville, withdrew and joined Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, at Camp Beauregard, near Ocean Pond, on Olustee Station, on the 13th.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 276, 281, 330)

- 8 Major General Jeremy F. Gilmer, CSA, Savannah, Georgia, ordered to send "all troops once ordered to be held ready to go from Savannah to Florida," to Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida. General Finegan notified and instructed "to do what you can to hold enemy at bay and prevent capture of slaves."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 579)

Captain James L. Galloway, USA, with fourteen men, and Lieutenant George Ross, USA, Company B, Seventh Vermont Volunteers, with seventeen men, on an expedition from Fort Barrancas, to bring in Confederate Army deserters "who had expressed a desire to return to the old flag" departed Point Washington, at the head of Choctawhatchee Bay, to capture Floyd's company Confederate infantry stationed at Cedar Bluff (or Boydton's Bluff), Florida, forty miles up the Choctawhatchee River. At 10:00 PM the camp was surrounded and two Confederate lieutenants with fifty men surrendered without resistance. The officers escaped.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 356; Part II, pg 5)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of Pensacola, reported "a battalion of Florida cavalry at Marianna, Jackson County, inclined to desert, but controlled by three companies of cavalry, under the command of Floyd, Gettis, and Robinson [CSA] ... moving continually in Washington and Walton Counties ... and hunting deserters with bloodhounds ..."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 471)

- 9 Baldwin, Florida along with a large quantity of cotton and fieldpieces, was captured and occupied by Union troops under

the command of Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the Florida Expedition. Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, joined the command. A detachment under the command of Colonel Guy V. Henry, USA, continued on to Barber's Place. Confederate troops evacuated Sandersen and burned 1,500 bushels of corn. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 276, 330-331)9

Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida notified Florida Governor John Milton that Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, and Major General Jeremy F. Gilmer, CSA, were ordered to reinforce Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 582)

Captain James L. Galloway, USA, commanding, with Lieutenant George Ross, USA, and 31 men of Company B, Seventh Vermont Volunteers, on an expedition from Fort Barrancas to receive Confederate deserters "who had expressed a desire to return to the old flag" departed the captured Confederate camp, Cedar Bluff [Boydton's Bluff], near Point Washington, Florida. On the return to Point Washington, the expedition was attacked at noon fifteen miles from the camp by two companies Confederate cavalry under the command of Captain William A. Jeter, CSA, and Captain William H. Milton, CSA. Losses: Union: Captain Galloway and Lieutenant Ross with eleven men captured. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 356; Part II, pg 5)

Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN, returned to Pensacola, Florida, upon completion of command tour of the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron. (CWNC: pg VI-51)

Captain De Witt Clinton Lewis, USA, commanding a detachment of Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers, accompanied by detachments of sailors from U.S. brig Perry and gun-boat U.S.S. Para, commanded by Lieutenant William C. Hanford, USN, embarked on a steamer and departed Fernandina, Florida, on an expedition up the Nassau River. Two posts of Confederate pickets, at Cooper's Bluff and Jacksonville road withdrew. The expedition arrived at Nassau Mills where two ladies under a flag of truce were taken hostage "on board as a precaution against treachery." The detachments continued four miles up the river. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 357)

Major Galusha Pennypacker, USA, commanding detachment of 290 men of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, departed Fernandina, Amelia Island, Florida, for Confederate Camp Cooper on the mainland. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 358)

- 10 A portion of the Union forces in the Florida Expedition occupying Baldwin, Florida, under the command of Colonel Guy V. Henry, USA, at Barber's Place, on the east bank of the St. Marys River, were ordered to Sanderson, Florida. A skirmish ensued at St. Marys South Fork with two companies of Second Florida Cavalry under the command of Major Robert Harrison, CSA, who was marching towards Lake City from Camp Cooper [near Fernandina]. Colonel Henry, USA, retreated to Barber's Place. Losses: Union: 25 killed and wounded; Confederate: 2 killed, 2 wounded. Confederate troops from the District of Middle Florida, arrived at Lake City. Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, departed Baldwin for Jacksonville. As Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren, USN, prepared to return to Charleston, South Carolina, General Gillmore wrote: "Please accept my thanks for the prompt cooperation afforded me." (CWNC: pg IV-14: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 276, 282, 325, 331)

Captain De Witt Clinton Lewis, USA, commanding a detachment of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers, and detachments of sailors, on board the steamer *Island City* up the Naussau River, disembarked the two female hostages and departed Naussau Mills, Florida. The expedition embarked Captain J. M. C. Savage, USA, and a detachment of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, and after examining two saw mills, returned to Fernandina, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 357-358)

First Sergeant Edwin B. Hendry, USA, and remainder of Company B, Seventh Vermont Volunteers, not captured on 9 February, returned to Point Washington, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 356)

Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, commanding the Department of the Gulf, authorized Major John Hay, USA, to "receive the signatures of loyal citizens to the oath of allegiance of December 8, 1863, at Key West, Tortugas, and at such other places in the State of Florida, and within the limits of the Department of the Gulf, as he may think proper."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 473)

Major Galusha, USA, commanding detachment of 290 men of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, attacked Camp Cooper, Florida, but found it deserted. On the return march to Fernandina, Captain J. M. C. Savage, USA, commanding two companies embarked on the steamer *Island City*, near Nassau Mills, on the Nassau River.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 358-359)

Captain of Artillery, Assistant Chief of Ordnance, L. Jaquelin Smith, CSA, report on inspection of troops, conditions, and supplies in the Middle and East Districts of Florida, 11-27

January 1864. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 582-588)

- 11 Telegraphic communication was established between Jacksonville and Baldwin, Florida. Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, instructed Major General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the Florida Expedition, not to risk a repulse in advancing on Lake City, Florida, but hold Sanderson, and in case of serious opposition, to concentrate at Sanderson and the South Fork of the St. Marys River. Colonel Guy V. Henry, USA, continued to push towards Lake City. On reaching Lake City a skirmish ensued with Confederate troops in hastily constructed works under the command of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida. Colonel Henry, USA, retreated to Sanderson. General Seymour reported "... what has been said of the desire of Florida to come back [into the Union] now is a delusion. The backbone of rebeldom is not here, and Florida will not cast its lot until more important successes elsewhere are assured.... [he] advised that the force be withdrawn at once ... that Jacksonville and Palatka alone be held .... and use the St. Johns [River] as a base for operations into the middle of the State by detachments of cavalry, instead of frittering away the infantry ... in such an operation as this."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 277, 282, 325-326)
- 12 Major General Truman Seymour, USA, informed Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, he would fall back to the South Fork of the St. Marys River as soon as Colonel Guy V. Henry, USA, returned from the expedition toward Lake City and Gainesville. General Gillmore telegraphed General Seymour to concentrate his command at Baldwin without delay, because of Confederate forces near the St. Marys River.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 277, 283)
- 13 Because of the 2,500 Union troops, in addition to the two regiments permanently stationed in St. Augustine and Fernandina, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South recommended to the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury that the port of Jacksonville, Florida be declared open. Major General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the Florida Expedition, telegraphed Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, he "had no apprehension of the [Confederate] force mentioned" on the 12th." General Seymour ordered Colonel Guy V. Henry, USA, to proceed on to Gainesville, Florida, and capture trains on the Fernandina and Cedar Keys line, and "to run them to Baldwin, or disable them that they cannot be used for the present." Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, "used every possible effort to gather re-enforcements ... and moved to Ocean Pond, on Olustee, thirteen miles from Lake City."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 277, 284, 331, 479)



- 14 With the main body of the Florida Expedition at Baldwin, Florida, under the command of Major General Truman Seymour, USA, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, returned to Jacksonville.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 277)

- 13-14 Skirmishes at Pease Creek, Florida. No circumstantial reports on file in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 1, 702)

- 15 Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, after arranging with Major General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the Florida Expedition, for construction of defenses at Jacksonville, Baldwin, and the South Fork of the St. Marys River, departed for Hilton Head, South Carolina, understanding that "no advance would be made without further instructions from [him], nor until the defenses were well advanced."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 277)

Major Galusha Pennypacker, USA, commanding a detachment of 300 men, of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, embarked on the steamer *Island City*, and departed Fernandina, Florida, on an expedition to Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills, Florida, to obtain lumber.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 359)

The District of Florida [Union] constituted, comprising all of the State within the Department of the South. Commanded by Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 30, 32)

- 16 Major Galusha Pennypacker, USA, commanding a detachment of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, on the steamer *Island City*, disembarked at Clark's on the Amelia River, and marched to Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills, Florida, on the St. Marys River. Major Thomas B. Brooks, USA, arrived with several transports and the 200-ton U.S. schooner *Para*, Acting Master Edward G. Furber.

(CWNC: IV-21: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 359-360)

Major [Assistant Adjutant General] John F. Lay, CSA, reported the sentiment in Tallahassee about the capabilities of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, was that: "there is want of confidence in him as an untried and inexperienced officer, with troops of the same character generally. It is unquestionably a fact that much confidence would be imparted by the presence of an officer of rank and reputation."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 309)

- 17 Major Thomas B. Brooks, USA, commanding a detachment of the Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, [having temporarily relieved Major Galusha Pennypacker, USA] at Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills, Florida, ordered rafts built of the lumber found at the mills and sent them down the river.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 359-360)

Confederate submarine H. L. Hunley, commanded by Lieutenant George E. Dixon, CSA, sank the Union blockader U.S.S. Housatonic off Charleston, South Carolina. The first submarine to sink a ship in combat.

- 17-18 Major General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the Florida Expedition, telegraphed Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, that "he intended to advance without supplies in order to destroy the railroad near the Suwannee River, 100 miles from Jacksonville." General Gillmore, dispatched Brigadier General John W. Turner, USA, his chief of staff to Jacksonville, "to stop the movement," stating: "You [Seymour] must have forgotten my last instructions, which were for the present to hold Baldwin and the St. Marys South Fork, as your outposts to the westward of Jacksonville, and to occupy Palatka, Magnolia, on the St. Johns." General Gillmore further indicated confusion in General Seymour's movements in view of his correspondence of 11 February. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 277, 284-286)

- 17-19 Boat expedition under the command of Acting Ensign J. G. Koehler, U.S.S. Tahoma, destroyed a large Confederate salt works and a supply of salt near St. Marks, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-21)

- 18 Florida Governor John Milton appealed to Confederate Secretary of War, James A. Seddon, to send "Major General Jeremy F. Gilmer, CSA, or some competent officer of rank to command forces in Florida. All will be lost without a head to inspire confidence, That feeling is now wholly absent, and its absence is fatal to inexperienced troops. A change must be made, and that promptly."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 619)

- 19-20 Fire at Pensacola, Florida, attributed to Confederates, in anticipation of Union occupation, with the arrival of the U.S. transport Hussar. Thirty-two houses of Union sympathizers destroyed, two good wharfs [but not the two worthless piers] burned along with a large amount of heavy lumber. Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of Pensacola, sent two companies of Union infantry on the Hussar, while he went overland from Fort Barrancas, to extinguish the fire.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 490)

20 Brigadier General William B. Taliaferro, CSA, ordered to the District of East Florida, from Charleston, SC, to assume command of all Confederate troops in that section. Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, present commander of the District ordered to command a brigade.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 620)

Brigadier General John W. Turner, USA, chief of staff for Major General Quincy, A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, arrived at Jacksonville, Florida, with orders to stop the advance planned by Major General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the Florida Expedition. General Seymour advanced in three columns from Barber's Place at 6:00 AM toward Lake City, and encountered Confederate forces [5,200 men] under the command of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, in the afternoon within three miles of Olustee, [Ocean Pond] Florida, about 45 miles west of Jacksonville. After a severe four and a half hour battle, General Seymour was forced to retreat to Sanderson and then to South Fork on the St. Marys River. General Finegan, CSA, ordered pursuit, but withdrew the order "in deference to [Brigadier General Alfred H. Colquitt's, CSA] suggestion of the fatigue of the troops, the absence of rations, and the disadvantage of pursuit in the dark, and ... a report ... that the enemy had halted ... and taken a position [subsequently ascertained to be incorrect]." Losses: Union 203 killed, 1,152 wounded, 506 missing. Confederate: 93 killed, 841 wounded. See Charts. Union General Seymour's (USA) force consisted of nearly 5,500 officers and men and sixteen guns, to-wit: Colonel Guy V. Henry's mounted brigade (two squadrons Independent Battalion Massachusetts Cavalry, Major Atherton H. Stevens, Jr.; the Fortieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, and Elder's Horse Battery B, First U.S. Artillery, four guns), Colonel Joseph R. Hawley's brigade (Seventh Connecticut, Captain Benjamin F. Skinner; Seventh New Hampshire, Colonel Joseph C. Abbott; Eighth U.S. Colored Troops, Colonel Charles W. Fribbley), Colonel William B. Barton's brigade (Forty-seventh New York, Colonel Henry Moore; Forty-eighth New York, Major William B. Coan; One hundred and fifteenth New York, Colonel Simeon Sammon), and Colonel James Montgomery's brigade (Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, Colonel Edward N. Hallowell; First North Carolina Volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel William N. Reed), with Hamilton's Light Battery E, Third U.S. Artillery, six guns, and Langdon's Battery M, First U.S. Artillery, six guns (comprising a section of James' Rhode Island Battery, under Lieutenant Henry H. Metcalf). Confederate General Joseph Finegan's (CSA) troops consisted of 4,600 infantry; cavalry (less than 60); artillery (3 batteries totaling twelve guns); to-wit: Sixth, Nineteenth, Twenty-third, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-eighth Georgia Regiments Infantry and Sixth Florida Battalion Infantry, as the First Brigade, under the command of

Brigadier General Alfred H. Colquitt, with the Chatham Artillery (four guns) Robert H. Gamble's Artillery [also known as Leon Light Artillery] attached. The Thirty-second Georgia Volunteers, First Georgia Regulars, Sixty-fourth Georgia Volunteers, First Florida Battalion, and Bonard's battalion, as the Second Brigade, under the command of Colonel George P. Harris, Thirty-second Georgia Volunteers, with Guerard's light battery attached, the Florida Light Artillery being held in reserve. Colonel R. B. Thomas assigned as chief of artillery. The calvary was organized into a brigade under the command of Colonel Caraway Smith, Second Florida Cavalry. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 277, 286-291, 298, 331-332, 346: Young, Brigadier Peter, A Dictionary of battles, 1816-1976, Mayflower Books, New York, NY, 1978, pg 251)

INSERT CHART OF UNION CASUALTIES FROM BATTLE OF  
OLUSTEE (WOR; SER I, VOL 35, PART I  
PG 298)

*Return of casualties in the engagement near Olustee, Fla., February 20, 1864,  
commanded by Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, U.S. Volunteers.*

Regiments.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total casualties.		Aggregate.	Aggregate each brigade.	Horses killed
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.			
Col. William B. Barton's brigade:											
115th New York Volunteers .....	2	27	4	204	1	58	7	289	296	824	—
47th New York Volunteers .....	3	27	4	193	—	86	7	306	313		—
48th New York Volunteers .....	1	16	1	153	—	44	2	213	215		—
Col. Joseph R. Hawley's brigade:											
7th Connecticut Volunteers .....	1	4	—	42	—	22	1	68	69	587	—
7th New Hampshire Volunteers ...	1	16	7	64	—	120	8	200	208		—
8th U.S. Colored Troops .....	1	48	8	180	1	72	10	300	310		—
Col. J. Montgomery's command:											
1st North Carolina Volunteers (colored) .....	2	20	8	123	—	77	10	220	230	316	—
54th Massachusetts Volunteers .....	—	13	3	62	—	8	3	83	86		—
Col. Guy V. Henry's command:											
40th Massachusetts Mounted Infantry .....	—	2	1	28	—	5	1	35	36	57	34
Battery B, 1st U.S. Horse Artillery	—	3	1	12	—	—	1	15	16		12
Independent Battalion Massachusetts Cavalry .....	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	5	5		9
Capt. John Hamilton's command:											
Battery E, 3d U.S. Artillery <sup>a</sup> .....	—	11	4	18	—	6	4	35	39	77	34
Battery M, 1st U.S. Artillery .....	—	4	1	21	—	6	1	31	32		28
Battery C, 3d Rhode Island Artillery .....	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	6	6		3
Total .....	11	192	42	1,110	2	504	55	1,806	1,861	1,861	120

<sup>a</sup> Detachment Enfants Perdus attached.

*Casualties in the Confederate forces at Olustee, 20 February 1864.*

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Aggregate
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Colquitt's brigade:							
6th Florida Battalion .....	a1	8	4	69	—	—	82
Chatham Artillery .....	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
6th Georgia .....	b1	4	2	54	—	—	61
19th Georgia .....	c1	7	7	81	—	—	96
23d Georgia .....	—	2	4	62	—	2	70
27th Georgia .....	—	7	8	59	—	—	74
28th Georgia .....	—	10	6	79	—	—	95
Gamble's battery .....	—	2	—	3	—	—	5
Total .....	3	40	31	410	—	—	486
Harrison's brigade:							
1st Florida Battalion .....	—	3	—	47	—	—	50
2d Florida Battalion [28th Georgia] .....	d1	11	2	93	—	2	109
1st Georgia Regulars .....	e1	2	1	24	—	—	28
32d Georgia .....	—	15	6	143	—	—	164
64th Georgia .....	f2	15	9	79	—	2	107
Guerard's battery .....	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Total .....	4	46	18	388	—	4	460
Grand total .....	7	86	49	798	—	6	946

a Lieut. Thomas J. Hill.

b Lieutenant Coombs.

c Adjutant Johnson.

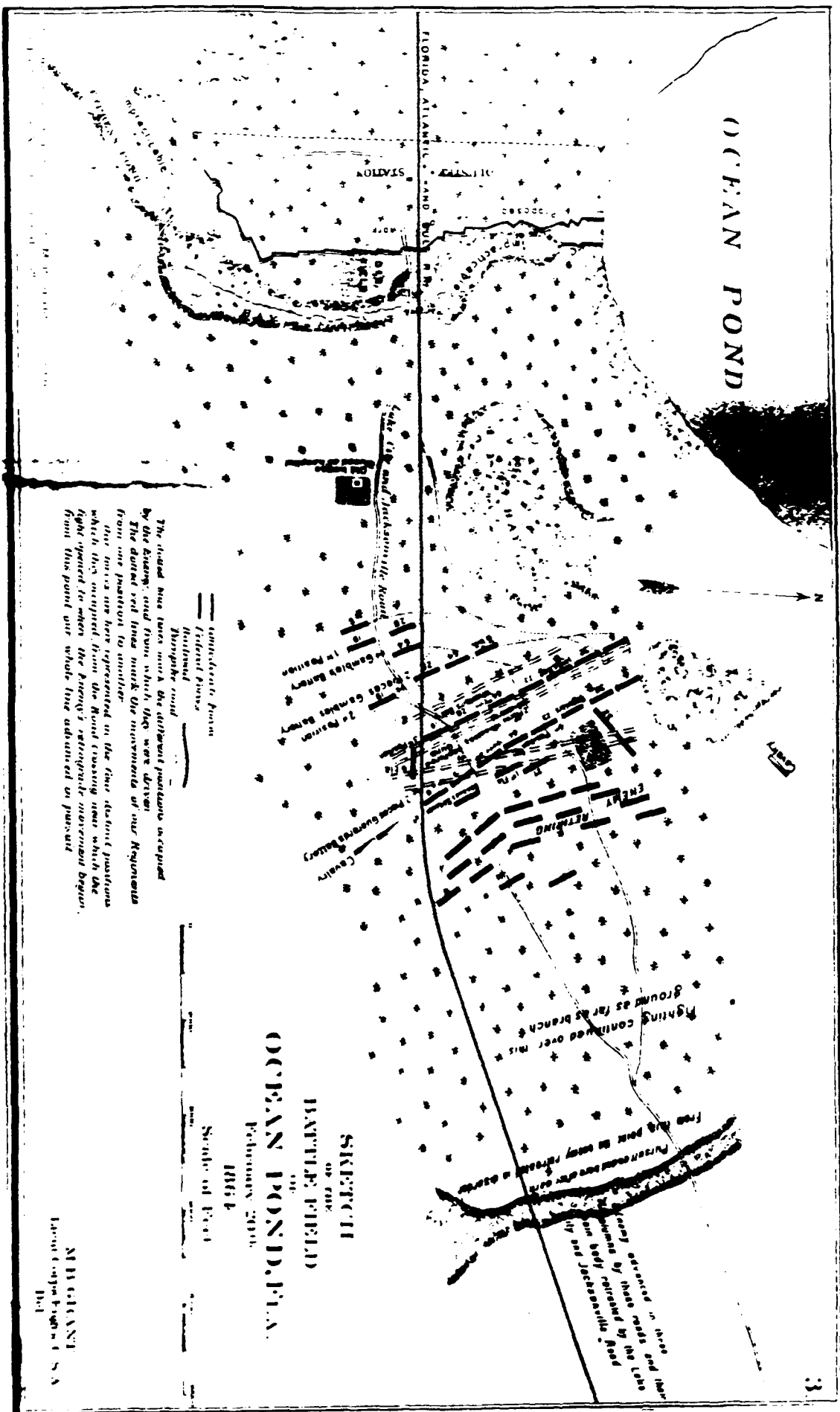
d Lieut. W.W. Holland (of a Florida company, attached).

e Capt. H.A. Cannon.

f Lieut. Col James Barrow and Lieut. P.A. Waller mortally wounded.

INSERT CHART OF CONFEDERATE CASUALTIES - (WOR: SER I,  
VOL 35, PART I, PAGE 337)

INSERT MAP OF BATTLE  
OF OLUSTEE





- 20 Major Thomas B. Brooks, USA, returned command of a detachment of the Ninety-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, at Woodstock and King's Ferry Mills, Florida, to Major Galusah Pennypacker, USA, and returned to Fernandina, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 360)

Skirmish at Pease Creek, Florida. No circumstantial reports on file in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 1, 702)

- 21 U.S. schooner Para, Acting Master Edward G. Furber, captured the small steamer *Hard Times*, on the St. Marys River, Florida, and engaged Confederates on the shore, while it covered U.S. Army transports loading a large quantity of lumber.  
(CWNC: pg IV: 21: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 360))

Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, having resumed command of the District of Middle Florida, ordered by Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of the South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, to assume command of all Confederate troops in East Florida, until Brigadier General William B. Taliaferro, CSA, could arrive from Charleston, South Carolina.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 323, 326)

- 22 Union forces under the command of Major General Truman Seymour, USA, abandoned Baldwin and retreated toward Jacksonville, Florida, where Federal gunboats in the St. Johns River, stood by to defend the city. Naval howitzers were put ashore in battery, and manned by seamen. Commander George B. Balch, USN, senior naval officer present, reported: "[he] had abundant reason to believe that to the naval force must our troops be indebted for protection against a greatly superior force flushed with victory." General Seymour expressed his

appreciation for Balch's quick action: " ... at a moment when it appeared probable that the vigorous assistance of the force under your command would be necessary."

(CWNC: pg IV-14: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 327)

Major Galusah Pennypacker, USA, commanding detachment of the Ninety-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, embarked on the steamers **Island City** and **Harriet A. Weed** [taking in tow the U.S. schooner **Para**, Acting Master Edward G. Furber].

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 360)

Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, congratulated Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, "and your brave officers on your brilliant victory over the enemy on the 20th instant. Your country will be cheered by this timely success, and I trust it is but the earnest of heavier and crushing blows which shall destroy our enemy on the soil of Florida."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 338)

Brigadier General William B. Taliaferro, CSA, ordered to report to Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, his senior on arrival in Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 635)

Major General J. Patton Anderson, CSA, ordered detached from General Joseph E. Johnston's Army of Tennessee and ordered to take command of the Department of East and Middle Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part II, pg 626)

- 23 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, reoccupied Barber's Place and Sanderson, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 327)

The Districts of East and Middle Florida united into the District of Florida, under the command of Major General J. Patton Anderson, CSA [a Floridian].

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 639-640)

- 23-24 U.S. hospital ship **Cosmopolitan** and transport steamers **Dictator** and **Delaware**, at Jacksonville, Florida, embarked Union wounded from the Battle of Olustee [20 February] and made two trips to Hilton Head and Beaufort, South Carolina.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 301)

Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, commander of the Florida Expedition, in Jacksonville, proposed to Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, that the Union wounded from the Battle of Olustee "be paroled and delivered within [Union] lines as soon as

possible." General Finegan responded "that the wounded prisoners [had] been sent forward and properly taken care of, to await the future action of [his] Government with reference to an exchange of prisoners."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 329-330)

- 24 Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, reoccupied Baldwin, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 328)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding the District of East Florida, was notified by Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, [but now at Lake City], that he had been ordered to take command of Confederate troops in the District of East Florida. General Finegan answered: "that it would give [him] pleasure to serve under General Gardner or any other superior officer whom the commanding general [Beauregard] might assign to the command, as soon as he should arrive in the district and assume the responsibility of the movements and supply of the troops, but that in the mean time the interests of the service required that [he] should command until his successor arrived... The fact is, no officer residing at Tallahassee or Quincy can intelligently control an army in this portion of the State with an active enemy in front."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 328-329)

**U.S.S. Nita**, Acting Lieutenant Robert B. Smith, chased blockade runner **Nan-Nan** ashore in the East Pass of Suwannee River, Florida. The steamer's crew fired her to prevent her falling into Union hands, but part of **Nan-Nan's** cargo of cotton, thrown overboard during the chase, was recovered.

(CWNC: pg IV-24)

- 25 **U.S.S. Roebuck**, Acting Master John Sherrill, seized blockade running British sloop **Two Brothers** in Indian River, Florida, with cargo including salt, liquor, and nails.  
(CWNC: pg IV-24)

- 26 Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, [and ordered to command Confederate troops in the District of East Florida], arrived at Baldwin, Florida, and halted the Confederate Army on McGirt's Creek, "in order that [he] might become acquainted with the state of things in front, and because [he] considered the movement for reaping the fruits of the signal success of the 20th had been allowed to escape, and the enemy had been allowed time ... to reorganize his defeated forces, ...[and] to receive re-enforcements ... and because of [his] utter want of confidence in the brigadier general commanding [Joseph Finegan] to handle an army on the field of battle, as manifested under my own eye at the battle of Olustee.

Likewise, the short supply of ammunition ..."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 334, 355)

- 26-27      Boat expedition under the command of Acting Master E. C. Weeks, U.S.S. *Tahoma*, assisted by deserters from the Confederate Army and citizens loyal to the U.S. near St. Marks, destroyed a large salt works of 395 kettles and 52 boilers, having a capacity to make 1,600 bushels daily, belonging to the Confederate government on Goose Creek, near St. Marks, Florida. As Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey noted in his report to U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles: "...the works to be destroyed were under the protection of a rebel cavalry company, whose pickets the expedition succeeded in eluding."  
(CWNC: pg IV-24; WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 14)
- 27      U.S.S. *Roebuck*, Acting Master John Sherrill, seized blockade running British sloop *Nina* with cargo of liquors and coffee and schooner *Rebel* with cargo of salt, liquor, and cotton, at Indian River Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-24)

Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the District of Florida, ordered to reduce the Union forces in Florida "as soon as the position at Jacksonville is secured. [also] ... to examine ... Yellow Bluff [on St. Johns River], with a view to erecting a field-work ... to protect communications on the river." Accordingly, Yellow Bluff was occupied and a block house and signal tower 90 feet high constructed. Yellow Bluff was considered "the only important point on the St. Johns River between Jacksonville and the mouth of the river, being the only place where Confederates could station a battery to interfere with Union transports."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 44, 496-497)

Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, departed Charleston, South Carolina, for East Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 113)

## MARCH

- 1      Major Atherton H. Stevens, Jr. USA, commanding the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, one squadron Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry and one piece of Elder's Horse Battery B, First U.S. Artillery, from Camp Moody of the Light Brigade, Three-Mile Run, Florida, ordered to reconnoiter Ten-Mile Station. Skirmish occurred at McGirt's and Cedar Creek, Florida. Colonel Guy V. Henry, USA, arrived with reinforcements, assumed command, and sent Major Stevens to command Three-Mile Run. Union expedition was forced to

withdraw to Camp Moody. Losses: Union: 1 killed, 4 wounded, and 5 prisoners. Confederates: 7 killed, 40 wounded.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 364-368)

U.S.S. Roebuck, Acting Master John Sherrill, seized blockade running British steamer **Lauretta** off Indian River Inlet, Florida, with cargo of salt.  
(CWNC: pg IV-26)

- 2 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of West Florida, issued orders to the commanding officers of Forts Pickens and Barrancas, regarding "the possibilities ... that the Confederate iron ram **Tennessee**, which the rebels have succeeded in getting over Dog River Bar, in Mobile Harbor, may pass ... our blockading fleet off Mobile, and attempt an entrance into Pensacola Harbor ... [to] stop all vessels approaching the harbor during the night until their character is fully ascertained."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 6)

U.S. Senate passed resolution directing the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War to "inquire into the causes of and circumstances attending the ... military expedition into Florida..."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 292)

Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, arrived from Charleston, South Carolina, at Camp Milton, near McGirt's Creek, about thirteen miles from Jacksonville, supervised and directed movements in the area. Fortifications built at McGirt's Creek and Baldwin, eight miles west of McGirt's Creek, at the intersection of the railroad running from Fernandina to Cedar Keys and from Jacksonville to Lake City, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 323, 368)

- 3-4 Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, arrived at Camp Milton, Florida, and assumed command of the District of Florida, there being two sub-districts: Number 1, all of West Florida between the Choctawhatchee River and Choctawhatchee Bay to the Suwannee River [Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding]; and Number 2, all of Florida east of the Suwannee River [Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding].  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 368, 323)

Several bands of deserters from the Confederate Army and conscripts operated in southern and inaccessible portions of Taylor and La Fayette Counties, and in South Florida, stealing cattle and other supplies needed by the Confederate Army and citizens of Florida. Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and

Florida, in Florida at this time, issued a proclamation "offering pardon, on certain conditions, to those in South Florida who had deserted ... were absent without leave, ... and were evading conscription." See Appendix for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 369; Part II, pg 331)

- 4 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, reported his view that "it seemed that Union forces of four departments, the Gulf, Tennessee, Cumberland, and the South, were co-operating against Alabama and Florida in a lengthwise half circle, the center of which was Mobile, Alabama .... and requested a chance to participate, in behalf of the Department of the Gulf, in the combined contest and contribute [his] humble part, at least within the limits of the District of West Florida..." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 5)

- 5 Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding the Second Florida Cavalry, ordered with his company to assume command of the post at Palatka, Florida, and Lieutenant Colonel John L. Harris, CSA, commanding the Fourth Georgia Cavalry, at Waldo, instructed to "hold himself in readiness to support Captain Dickison with his whole command if found necessary." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 333, 343)

Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, on being relieved from command of all Confederate forces in East Florida instructed to return to command of the Sub-District No. 1 [Middle Florida] within the District of Florida, under the command of Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, to have general supervision of all the transportation and supplies of the District of Florida, and to re-establish the military posts from Clay Landing on the Suwannee River to Tampa, garrisoning these posts with troops heretofore occupying them under the orders of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 332-333)

Brigadier General William B. Taliaferro, CSA, having been ordered to East Florida to assume command of the temporary Division of Florida and all Confederate forces in Middle and East Florida, but arrived after the engagement at Olustee (Ocean Pond), instructed the temporary division was terminated and all sub-district commanding officers ordered to report to Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 332)

- 7 Confederate camp on McGirt's Creek, Florida, hereafter instructed to be known as Camp Milton. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 340)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding Sub-District

No. 2 (East Florida), instructed to occupy the posts from Clay Landing, on the Suwannee River, to Tampa Bay, on the Gulf coast.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 340)

- 8 Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the District of Florida, requested more artillery "of a tolerable heavy caliber and size" be sent to Jacksonville, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 11)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, based on intelligence reported "200 refugees and deserters in the neighborhood of St. Marks, Florida, in open war with the Confederacy, and requested the use of a transport steamer to bring them in for [recruitment] in the Florida Cavalry [Union]." He further requested authorization and support to establish a "permanent post at St. Marks; for it would afford a safe base of operations toward the interior of Florida, protected by blockading vessels of Admiral Farragut, [U.S. gun-boat **Tahoma**, Lieutenant Commander David B. Harmony] anchored near the light-house, seven miles seaward from St. Marks."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 12-13)

- 9 Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, USA, became General-in-Chief of the Union armies.

- 9-10 Colonel William B. Barton, USA, commanding the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, and One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, and detachment of the Third Rhode Island Artillery embarked on transport steamer, escorted by the U. S. gun-boats **Columbine** and **Ottawa**, departed Jacksonville, and proceeded to Palatka, Florida, 75 miles up the St. Johns River. The detachment disembarked without opposition on the 10th, where they remained and constructed defenses. Colonel Barton reported Confederate pickets at Nine-Mile Hammock, on the Orange Springs Road, and at a point four miles from Palatka on the Rice Creek Road; and a large detachment of cavalry, under the command of Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, at Starke.

Lieutenant Colonel John L. Harris, CSA, commanding CS forces at Waldo, Florida, reported the landing of Union troops at Palatka and was instructed to "watch enemy movements, skirmish with him and retard his movements, if he moves out ... toward the interior."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 34; Part II, pg 15, 17, 348)

- 10 Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, reported "the value of Florida to the enemy has been overlooked by us to a great extent ... convinced that they have drawn from the counties along the line of the Fernandina and Cedar Keys Railroad an average of

2,000 head of cattle per week during the past year [1863]."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 16)

- 11 Boats under Acting Ensign Henry B. Colby, from U.S.S. **Beauregard**, and Acting Master George Delap, from U.S.S. **Norfolk Packet**, seized British schooner **Linda** at Mosquito Inlet, Florida, with cargo including salt, liquor, and coffee.  
(CWNC: pg IV-31)

U.S.S. **Beauregard**, Acting Master Francis Burgess, captured blockade running British sloop **Hannah** off Mosquito Inlet, Florida, with cargo of cloth.  
(CWNC: pg IV-31)

- 13 Passenger side-wheel steamer **General Sumter** (also **Sumter**), Captain W. W. Tumblin, used as a Confederate Army transport in the upper Florida Lakes-Ocklawaha River, captured by the U.S.S. **Columbine** in Big [Great] Lake George, Florida. Upon surrender, Captain Tumblin piloted the **Columbine** with the **Sumter**, as a prize vessel and armed with a howitzer, searched out and captured the Confederate steamer **Hattie Brock** up the St. Johns River.  
(CWNC: pg VI-237: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 374)

In the event of a general advance of Union troops from Palatka, Florida, Lieutenant Colonel John L. Harris, CSA, commanding CSA forces at Waldo, Florida, instructed to fall back towards Baldwin and unite with the cavalry under the command of Colonel Robert H. Anderson, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 355)

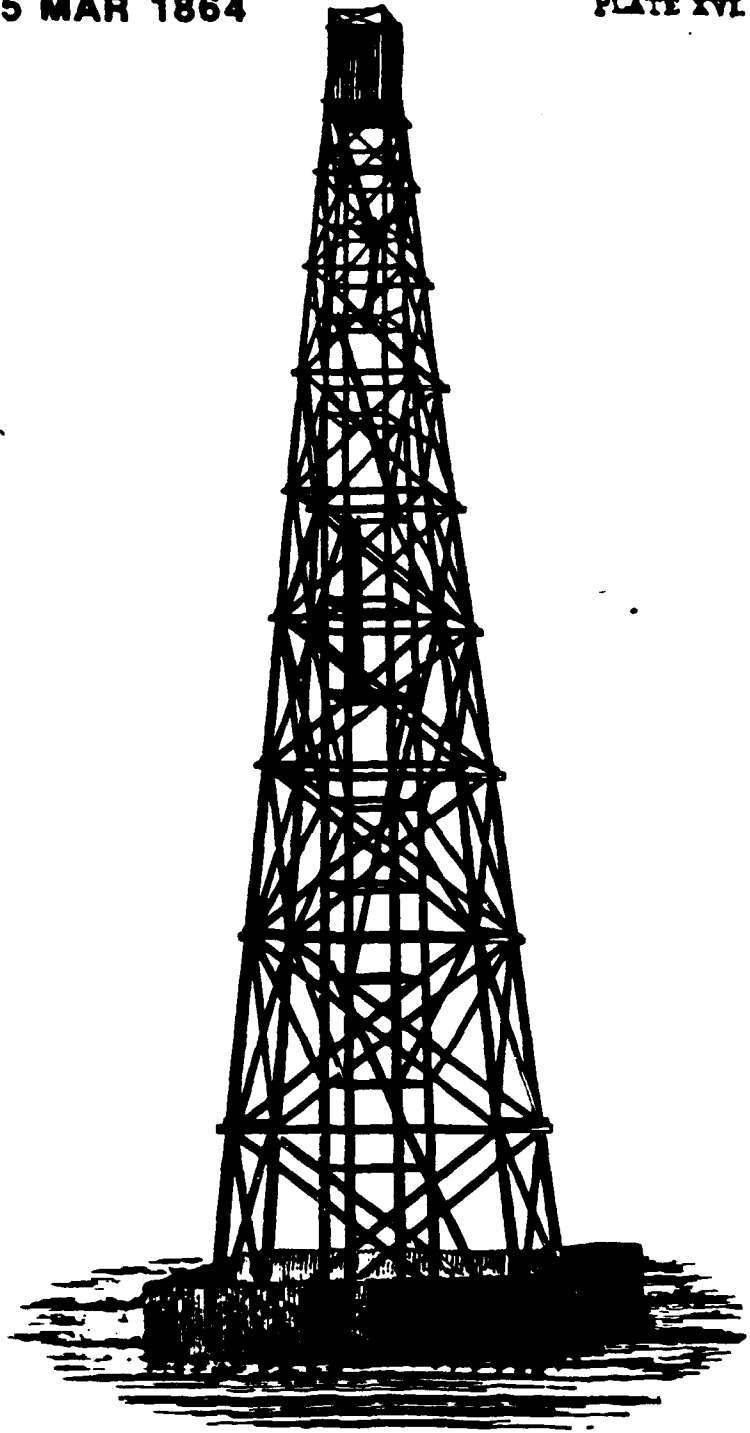
- 15 Colonel William B. Barton, USA, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, commanding brigade at Palatka, Florida, requested use of steamer **Island City** to "capture the only remaining steamer (the **Silver Springs**) [in that part of Florida], and reported "a considerable force of [Confederate] infantry, cavalry, and artillery ... at a point 6 miles [from Palatka]."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 375-376)

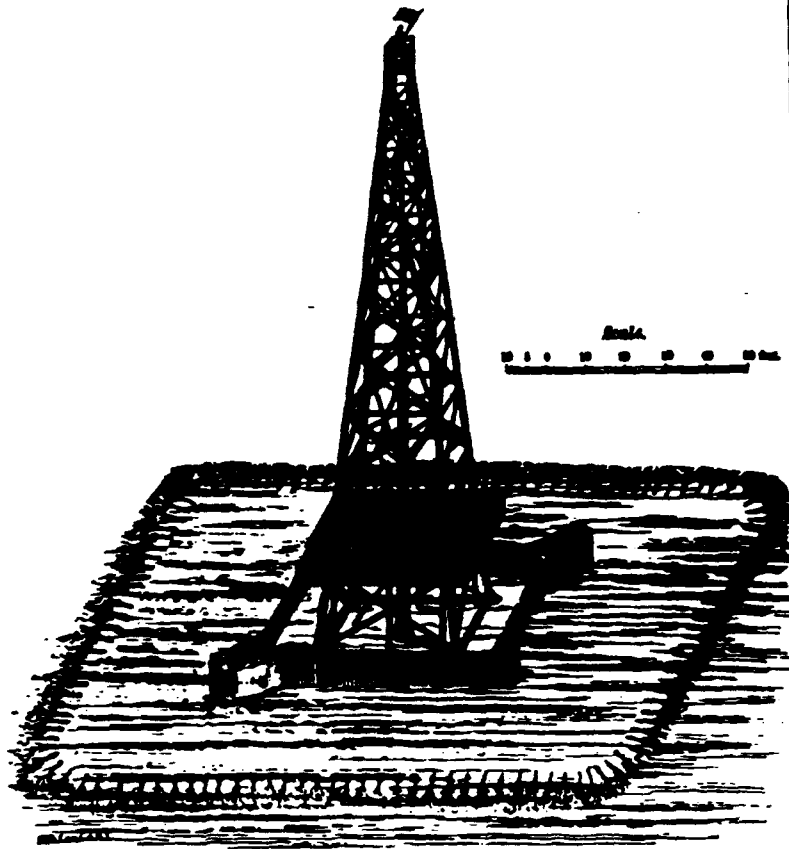
Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the District of Florida, reported the signal tower at Yellow Bluff on the St. Johns River, nearly completed and already occupied by a force of Union troops. Furthermore, there was a signal station at the mouth of the St. Johns River and it was necessary to construct one there in Jacksonville. In the report he indicated the number and placement of artillery pieces in Jacksonville, Palatka, and St. Augustine, Florida. See Appendix for full text. Below are drawings of two signal towers in South Carolina, which typify Union signal tower construction during the war. Plate XVI at Otter Island, 142 feet above the ground, and Plate XVII at Botany Bay Island, 138 feet high and 30 feet square at the base.



15 MAR 1864

PLATE XVI





15 MAR 1864

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 18-20; Vol 28, Part I, pg 256, 258-259)

TOWER PICTURES

SIGNAL TOWER PICTURE

- 16 Union mounted pickets from a brigade of the Forty-eight New York Infantry, Colonel William B. Barton, USA, commanding at Palatka, Florida, attacked by Confederate cavalry. Two Union soldiers captured.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 376-377)
- 18 Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding the District of Middle Florida, issued a proclamation at Mosely Hall, to the people of Taylor and La Fayette Counties, Florida, that he was "prepared with an ample force and means to enter the counties and visit prompt punishment upon deserters and others found offering resistance to the military authorities of the Confederate States or doing violence to persons or property of their loyal fellow-citizens." He further stated: "He felt assured that many soldiers had been persuaded by the inducements and influences of designing men to absent themselves from their commands and even to band together with the ruffians who had by their misdeeds finally attracted the attention of the Government." To these soldiers

he offered a "full pardon and restoration to their commands, provided they voluntarily reported to his headquarters or to the conscript camp at Madison, Florida, before April 5, 1864....[and] .. To those deserters or others who may be deaf to the clemency offered severe punishment would be administered. All those found with arms in their hands would be shot without mercy. The families of deserters and the disloyal would be sent into the interior, their property destroyed, and all the cattle, horses, and hogs driven away or shot." It was to be "distinctly understood that there was to be no suspension of military operations from this day to April 5th."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 320)

- 19 Colonel William B. Tabb, CSA, ordered to Waldo, Florida, to assume command of all Confederate troops, "at or near there now reporting to Lieutenant Colonel John L. Harris, CSA," and obstruct navigation of the tributaries of the St. Johns River by falling timber, etc..."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 366)

- 20 U.S.S. Honeysuckle, Acting Ensign Cyrus Sears, captured blockade running sloop ~~Florida~~ in the Gulf of Mexico west of Florida, with cargo of powder, shot, nails, and coffee.

(CWNC: pg IV-33)

Florida Governor John Milton issued a proclamation offering pardon, on certain terms, to men in Taylor and La Fayette Counties, who "had deserted from the Confederate Army, ... were absent from leave, and ... were evading conscription."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 369)

Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, departed Camp Milton for Charleston, wrote Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, giving his "general views as to future probable operations against the enemy now occupying Jacksonville ... and Palatka, Florida." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 366-367)

- 20-27 Lieutenant Colonel Henry D. Capers, CSA, assumed command of Confederate troops designated to operate against deserters and disaffected citizens in Taylor and La Fayette Counties, Florida, led an expedition into the area, destroyed "every house on the east and west banks of the Econfinia and Fenholloway Rivers belonging to these people," found a muster-roll of men who had taken the oath of allegiance to the United States, captured three prisoners and removed families of the deserters, including that of William W. Strickland, the "gang leader." On return to Camp Linton, he received communication from Strickland in which he proposed terms to leave the area.

Colonel Capers referred the entire matter to Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding the sub-District of Middle Florida. See Appendix 27 and 28 March 1864, for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 316-320)

- 21 **U.S.S. Hendrick Hudson**, Lieutenant Commander Charles J. McDougal, rammed blockade runner **Wild Pigeon**, bound from Havana to the Florida coast; she struck **Wild Pigeon** amidships and the schooner sank immediately.  
(CWNC: pg IV-34)
- Small detachment of Confederate cavalry attacked the outposts at Palatka and drove them in. After Colonel William B. Barton, USA, commanding the post sent out infantry and the U.S. gun-boat **Ottawa** fired a few rounds, the force withdrew.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 27)
- 24 **U.S.S. Stonewall**, Master Henry B. Carter, captured sloop **Josephine** in Sarasota Sound, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg IV-34)
- 25 Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, assigned to temporary command of the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 33; Part II, pg 27)
- 26 Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, commanding the District of Florida, ordered that "the redoubt at Palatka to be known as redoubt Vandever, in honor of Captain Garrett Vandever, USA, One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, the record of whose distinguished gallantry at Olustee will long survive the work that commemorates his name." And, the work at Yellow Bluff, on the St. Johns River, was named after First Lieutenant D. H. Jones, USA, Fifty-fifth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, "a promising young officer, who was accidentally killed on the 23rd March, near that place, while in the discharge of his duty."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 366)
- 28 Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, relieved Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, and assumed command of the District of Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 34)
- 30 During the night, Confederate troops under the "direction and skill of Captain E. Pliny Bryan," CSA, Assistant Adjutant General on Major General P. G. T. Beauregard's staff, "placed twelve torpedoes [floating mines], containing each 70 pounds small-grain cannon powder, in the St. Johns River, near Mandarin Point," about fifteen miles above Jacksonville, Florida. Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, noted, the torpedoes "taught him [Union Navy] to be cautious in the

navigation of our waters."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 369, 381: CWNC: pg IV-37)

Colonel William B. Barton, USA, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, commanding the brigade at Palatka, Florida, expecting "a dash by Confederate cavalry on his pickets," ambushed a small force of Confederate infantry.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 378-379)

Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, commented on the situation of deserters in Taylor and La Fayette Counties, the official report of Lieutenant Colonel Henry D. Capers, CSA, commanding forces operating in the area, and the communications of Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding Sub-District No. 1 [Middle Florida] and William W. Strickland, leader of a band of outlaws and deserters. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 390-391)

- 31 A boat crew under the command of Acting Master's Mate Francisco Silva, returned to U.S.S. ~~Sagamore~~ after destroying two blockade running schooners near Cedar Keys, Florida. Three boats had initiated the search for a blockade runner sighted on the 28th, but two had turned back after an unsuccessful search of nearly six hours, as night was falling and the weather threatening. Silva, however, continued to search for the next two days...." with heavy rain squalls and an ugly sea running." Despite the adverse conditions, Silva succeeded in destroying schooner Etta and a second schooner whose name could not be ascertained.

(CWNC: pg IV-36-37)

Colonel William B. Barton, USA, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, commanding the brigade at Palatka, Florida, initiated a second ambush [see 30 MARCH] on a small force of Confederate infantry in the early morning. A larger force of Confederate infantry made the "looked-for attack" later in the afternoon, "and a brisk skirmish ensued." No Union casualties.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 378-379)

Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, commented on the publication in Northern newspapers, of an "extraordinary paper" issued by Major P. W. White, CSA, and Chief Commissary in Sub-District No. 1 [Middle Florida], which was supposed to be have been kept secret and confidential, on the "perilous condition of the Confederate Army." General Beauregard indicated he thought the release of the report "was one of the main causes of the expedition to Jacksonville, and thence toward Lake City." See Appendix 31 March including enclosures from the New York Herald [20 February] and the New

York Tribune [23 February] for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 392-396)

#### APRIL

EARLY Lieutenant James McC. Baker, CSN, undertook plans to capture Fort Pickens, Pensacola, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-136)

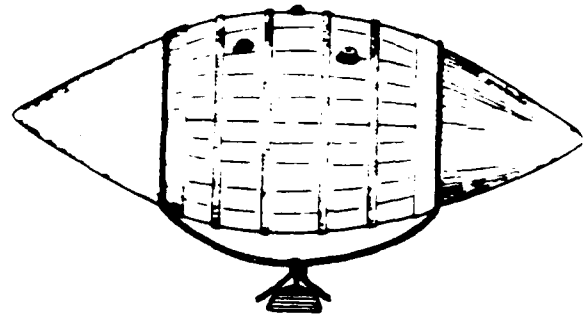
EARLY Brigadier General William M. Gardner, CSA, commanding sub-District No. 1 [Middle Florida], with a small force succeeded "to a great extent in breaking up the rendezvous of the deserters, etc. in Taylor and La Fayette [Counties, Florida], and in restoring quiet, and establishing a sense of security along the borders of Madison and Jefferson [Counties]."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 371)

- 1 U.S. Army transport **Maple Leaf**, returning from carrying troops to Palatka, Florida, along with the **Harriet A. Weed** and **General Hunter**, destroyed by a Confederate torpedo in the St. Johns River, twelve miles above Jacksonville, Florida, and "sank in seven minutes .... Baggage and camp equipment of the One Hundred and twelfth and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York and Thirteenth Indiana Regiments was on board..." See Examples of Confederate Torpedoes.  
(CWNC: pg IV-37: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 380)

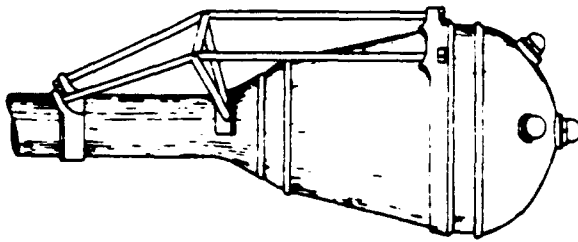
Confederate Torpedoes pictures



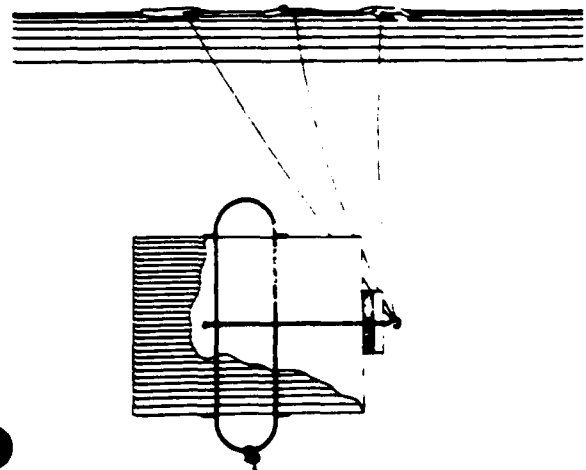
1 APR 1864



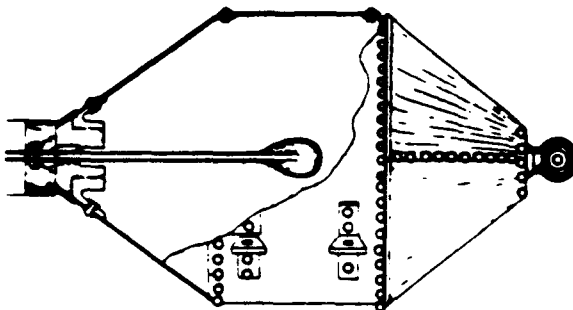
*Keg Torpedo.*



*Spar Torpedo.*



*Driftwood Contact Torpedo.*



*Electric Torpedo.*

*Examples of Confederate Torpedoes.*

*(Extracted from J. Thomas Scharf's History of the Confederate States Navy)*

1644

Captain Solomon P. Smith, USA, commanding a detachment of twenty five men from the One-hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, embarked on the U.S. Army transport **Harriet A. Weed**, proceeded from Palatka, up the St. Johns River and captured a sergeant and nine men from the Fifth Georgia Cavalry stationed at Fort Gates, Florida. The same night four outpost pickets of the Massachusetts cavalry at Palatka, Florida were captured by a Confederate patrol.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 381-382; Part II, pg 33-34)

Lieutenant H. Grieve, Jr., CSA, with a detachment of men, departed Camp Milton, for the U.S. transport **Maple Leaf** wrecked in the St. Johns River at McIntosh's Point, with orders to "cooperate with Captain E. Pliny Bryan, CSA, in his efforts to destroy the wreck ... whether an enemy is in sight or not."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 397)

- 2 Lieutenant E. W. Gamble, CSA, with a section of artillery, and infantry under command of Captain M. Grieve, Jr., CSA, First Georgia Regulars, Captain E. Pliny Bryan, CSA, Assistant to Adjutant General, and Lieutenant J. D. O'Hern, CSA, with six men from the Second Florida Battalion, a total 120 men, arrived at the U.S. Army transport **Maple Leaf**, destroyed by a Confederate torpedo in the St. Johns River, Florida, and burned the remaining portion of the vessel.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 370, 381; Part II, pg 397)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding sub-District No. 2 [East Florida], ordered to proceed by rail from Baldwin to Waldo, Florida with 2,500 infantry and six pieces of

artillery to attack and capture Palatka, Florida. But delayed due to transportation problems in moving his command. In his absence, Brigadier General Alfred H. Colquitt, CSA, assumed command of Camp Milton.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 370; Part II, pg 401)

Colonel Guy V. Henry, USA, Fortieth Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, commanding Light Brigade, with a detachment of cavalry and two regiments of infantry, Seventy-fifth Ohio and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York, reconnoitered and attacked Confederate pickets near Cedar Creek, Florida. Skirmish ensued with a larger Confederate force, before it withdrew towards Camp Finegan. Losses: Union: 8 wounded. Confederate: 20-30 wounded.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 383-384)

Captain Adolph Smith, USA, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, commanding, with a detachment of 30 men, from Fort Barrancas, Pensacola, Florida on following a detachment of fifty Confederate cavalry, under the command of Major F. C. Randolph, CSA, Seventh Alabama Cavalry, was attacked at Cow Ford Creek, by the rear guard, near Pensacola. Losses: Union 3 wounded. Confederate: 10-15 killed and wounded, 11 prisoners.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 385-387)

- 3 Confederate scout reported the arrival of several Federal ships to Jacksonville, Florida: **Canonicus**, **Dictator**, **Mary Benton**, **Delaware**, and three large steamers.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 370)

- 4 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of West Florida, at Fort Barrancas, reported "a force of Confederate infantry, artillery, and cavalry, in Walton County, Florida, with headquarters at McDade's Pond, between Yellow and Pea Rivers, scouting down the Boggy Bayou, opposite East Pass, and upward on the north side of the Choctawhatchee Bay to the Four-Mile Landing." He further suggested that "at the next advance of Federal forces in East Florida a combined movement be made also in West Florida."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 385-386)

Confederate scout reported the early morning arrival of a Federal gunboat and two large transports to Jacksonville, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 370)

Union troops under the command of Colonel William B. Barton, USA, evacuated Palatka, Florida, in accord with a general troop movement northward, but **U.S.S. Ottawa**, Lieutenant Commander S. Livingston Breese, which had protected the soldiers there, remained in the river, moving to Picolata on

the east side of the St. Johns River, where there remained "one regiment of negro troops [Kansas], under [Colonel James] Montgomery, USA"... and "a large portion of the stores."  
(CWNC: pg IV-37: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 371, 387-388)

**U.S.S. Pawnee**, Commander George B. Balch, remained on duty at Jacksonville patrolling the St. Johns River, as the naval forces under his command had done for a month, while double-ender **U.S.S. Unadilla**, Lieutenant Commander James Stillwell, and **U.S.S. Norwich**, Acting Master Frank B. Meriam, continued to convoy troops on the river.  
(CWNC: pg IV-37)

Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, commanding District of East Florida, recalled from expedition to attack Palatka, Florida. Confederate scout reported two more large Federal transports had arrived at Jacksonville, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 370)

Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, ordered to proceed with all available force to Fort Monroe, Virginia, and turn over command to Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 34)

Brigadier General William Birney, USA, ordered to assume command of the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 34)

- 5 Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, summed up the vital contributions made by the Navy in controlling the inland waterways: "...I consider it very important, I may say necessary, that the naval force should be retained here [in the St. Johns River] as a patrol of the river, to aid us in the event of an attack, and to cover the landing of troops at other points.... The length of the river now occupied [100 miles] requires for its thorough patrol a naval force of the size of the present squadron." In a separate report General Hatch sent a circular, issued under his order, which he thought would have "the effect of bringing in deserters from the enemy." The circular informed "All refugees from the rebel lines and deserters ... and all persons desiring to become such, that they would not under any circumstances be compelled to serve in the U.S. Army against the rebels."  
(CWNC: pg IV-37: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 38)

- 7 **U.S.S. Beauregard**, Acting Master Edward C. Healy, seized blockade running British schooner **Spunky** near Cape Canaveral, Florida, with an assorted cargo.  
(CWNC: pg IV-38)

The Confederate simple cipher code sent to Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, for use in "important telegrams to the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida." He was further instructed for "very important telegrams the diplomatic cipher should be used."

A by M	H by R	O by U	U by F
B - K	I - S	P - I	V - Q
C - O	J - V	Q - G	W - D
D - A	K - H	R - Y	X - T
E - N	L - X	S - E	Y - B
F - C	M - P	T - Z	Z - J
G - W	N - L		

Example: Charleston -- Ormyxnezul  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 406-407)

8-MAY 11 Confederate scouts reported the removal of many Union troops from Jacksonville, Florida by sea.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 371-372)

11 U.S.S. Nita, Lieutenant Robert B. Smith, captured blockade runner ~~Three~~ Brothers at the mouth of the Homosassa River, Florida, with an assorted cargo.  
(CWNC: pg IV-40)

12 Major General Nathan B. Forrest, CSA, captured Fort Pillow, Tennessee, and alleged massacre of black troops.

13 Lieutenant Colonel Abner H. McCormick, CSA, instructed to "scout the country on his left and front around Broward's Neck and Yellow Bluff, on the St. Johns River."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 424)

14-MAY 7 In reaction to Union removal of troops from Jacksonville, Florida, [8 April-11 May], twenty-six Confederate regiments were removed from East Florida and sent to Savannah, Georgia.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 372)

15 Major P. W. White, CSA, and Chief Commissary of Florida, reported he was "unable to supply the [Confederate] Army with beef, and General Beauregard need expect none from Florida, until the General realized the necessity of opening communications with South Florida, and giving protection to Confederate Commissary operations in the area and until the War Department provided the means to bring them out."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 431)

16 U.S. Army transport General Hunter on a return trip from Picolata, Florida, [near Palatka], with the U.S. transport

**Cosmopolitan** and U.S. gunboat **Norwich**, was destroyed by a Confederate torpedo near Mandarin Point, St. Johns River, near the wreck of the **Maple Leaf** [1 APRIL].  
(CWNC: pg IV-37: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 387-388)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth USA, commanding the District of West Florida, reported 2,000 Confederate troops under the command of Brigadier General James H. Clanton, CSA, operating in Santa Rosa and Walton Counties, up to the Choctawhatchee River, with headquarters at McDade's Pond, between Yellow and Pea Rivers. Smaller parties under the command of Colonel William Miller, CSA, were controlling the country between Escambia and Blackwater Rivers [Escambia County], and scouting down to Gashorn's Point. Also, a mounted regiment under the command of Colonel Henry Maury, CSA, and Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Myers, CSA, were posted at Seven-Mile Station [on the railroad, 7 miles above Pensacola], and at Turner's Mill, 4 miles west of Pensacola and 5 miles north of the Bayou Grand, with an advance post at Jackson's Ridge, over the Bayou Chico Creek, 1 3/4 miles from the mouth of the Bayou Grand.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 56-57)

- 17 Lieutenant J. B. Cone, Jr., CSA, instructed to reconnoiter the crossing at Trader's Hill, in East Florida, and report "if there was any practicable crossing for troops and trains, and, if not, where was one."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 440)

- 18 Boats from U.S.S. **Beauregard**, Acting Master Edward C. Healy, seized blockade running British schooner **Oramoneta** in Matanzas Inlet, Florida, with cargo of salt and percussion caps.

(CWNC: pg IV-44)

U.S.S. **Fox**, Acting Master Charles T. Chase, captured and burned schooner **Good Hope** at the mouth of the Homosassa River, Florida, with cargo of salt and dry goods.

(CWNC: pg IV-44)

- 19 Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, stressed the importance of Baldwin, Florida, "that it was the proper point from which to defend South Florida ... for while Confederate forces hold it, they could extend forces over [the Southern area of the State, but] though South Florida was important, Baldwin was still more so, as the possession of Baldwin determined Confederate ability to communicate with and hold South Florida."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 443)

- 20 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, assumed command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, relieving Major General P. G. T. Beauregard, CSA.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 2)

- 21-22      Boat expedition under Acting Ensign Christopher Carven, U.S.S. **Sagamore**, took over 100 bales of cotton and destroyed 300 additional bales near Clay Landing, on the Suwannee River, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-47: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 372)
- 23      Captain Romanzo C. Bailey, USA, commanding a detachment of the Eighth U.S. Colored Troops, at Yellow Bluff, Florida, ordered to embark on U.S. gun-boat **Mahaska**, Lieutenant Commander Robert F. R. Lewis, USN, commanding, make a reconnaissance of the country between Daniel and Trout Creeks, getting to the rear of Confederate scouts in the area, and if the opportunity presented itself destroy sections of the railroad from Fernandina, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 66)
- 24      Sixty-fourth Regiment Georgia Volunteers, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Theodore W. Brevard, CSA, of the Second Florida Battalion, "sent to South Florida for service against the deserters and to facilitate the operations of the Confederate commissary department in the region." But, after traveling 100 miles, the Sixty-fourth Regiment was ordered to South Carolina, and replaced with Bonaud's Battalion.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 372; Part II, pg 448-449, 481)
- 26-MAY 6      At the request of Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding the District of Florida, U.S.S. **Ottawa**, Lieutenant Commander S. Livingston Breese and a launch from U.S.S. **Pawnee** under Acting Master John C. Champion, convoyed transports **Harriet A. Weed** and **Mary Benton** with a Federal force of about 930 men under the command of General Birney, up the St. Johns River, Florida. The move was prompted by reports of 400 Confederate troops operating near Union-held Fort Gates and threatening St. Augustine for the purpose of driving off all the horses and cattle. A lighter, repaired by Confederates at Saunders' Landing was seized. Confederate soldier Brock home on furlough and son of the former owner of the **Hattie Brock**, Confederate transport on the St. Johns River, [13 MARCH] was captured. Two sentinels opposite Volusia, and one Confederate beef commissary, with 400 head of cattle captured. This put 1,500 head of cattle on the road to Jacksonville. At Smyrna the schooners **Fannie** and **Shell**, loaded with cotton and ready to run the blockade were seized. On return, General Birney reported it was in his "power to appropriate the immense droves of cattle now being collected on the headwaters of the St. Johns [River] for the rebel Army. In ... Brevard County alone, there were probably 15,000 or 20,000 beef-cattle, all of which belong to us if we choose to take them."

(CWNC: pg IV-48: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 388-389; Part II, pg 70-71)

**U.S.S. Union**, Acting Lieutenant Edward Conroy, captured schooner **O.K.** attempting to run the blockade between Tampa Bay and Charlotte Harbor, Florida. (CWNC: pg IV-48) Note: A sloop **O.K.** was captured by **U.S.S. Santiago de Cuba**, 4 March 1862, and foundered.

- 29 **U.S.S. Honeysuckle**, Acting Ensign Cyrus Sears, captured blockade running schooner **Miriam**, west of Key West, Florida, with assorted cargo. Sears had boarded **Miriam** on 28 April, thought her papers in order and released her. Keeping her under surveillance however, he found that she was not on her predicted course and boarded her again. This time upon inspection of the ship's cargo he discovered mail for Confederate States and seized the vessel.  
(CWNC: pg IV-50)

- 30 Report of the Department of the South, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding, indicated 6,547 men aggregate present and absent for the District of Florida. The organization of troops report indicated the position of companies in the District of Florida. See Charts for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 77-78)



*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for April, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
District of Florida (Birney) .....	159	4,085	4,959	6,547	46	17

*Troops in the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore  
commanding, April 30, 1864.*

**DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.**  
Brig. Gen. William Birney.

*First Brigade.*

Col. James Shaw, Jr.

114th New York Lieut. Col. James Lewis.  
75th Ohio (detachment), Maj. George B. Fox.  
107th Ohio, Maj. Augustus Vignos.  
7th U.S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Llewellyn F.  
Haskell.

*Jacksonville.*

75th Ohio Mounted, Col. Andrew L. Harris.  
35th U.S. Colored Troops, Col. James C. Beecher.  
Signal Detachment, Lieut. Theodore C. Vidal.

*Fernandina.*

Col Philip P. Brown, Jr.  
157th New York (six companies), Col. Philip P.  
Brown, jr.  
21st U.S. Colored Troops (recruits), Capt. Mahlon E.  
Davis.

*Artillery Brigade.*

Lieut. Col. Ulysses Doubleday.

3d U.S. Colored Troops, Maj. Frederick W. Bardwell.  
3d Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Battery A,  
Capt. William H. Hamner.

*Yellow Bluff*

8th U.S. Colored Troops, Capt. Romanzo C. Bailey.

*Saint Augustine.*

17th Connecticut, Col. William H. Noble.

*Picolata.*

157th New York (four companies), Lieut. Col. James  
C. Carmichael.

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South. Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore.  
U.S. Army, commanding, for December, 1863;  
headquarters Hilton Head, S.C.*

Station and command.	Present for duty.				Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Heavy.	Field.
Fernandina (Guss) .....	33	824	1,020	1,064	—	—
Saint Augustine (Osborn) .....	41	926	1,248	1,442	19	—
Total .....	74	1,750	2,268	2,506	19	—

*Organization of Troops, Department of the South, December 1863.*

**FERNANDINA.**

Col. Henry R. Guss.

97th Pennsylvania, Col. H.R. Guss.

4th South Carolina (colored), Company A, Capt. Mahlon E. Davis.

**SAINT AUGUSTINE.**

Col. Francis A. Osborn.

10th Connecticut, Col. John L. Otis.

24th Massachusetts, Maj. Charles H. Hooper.

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G.T. Beauregard commanding, December 31, 1863;  
headquarters Charleston, S.C.*

Command.	Present for duty						
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery	Aggregate present and absent last return.
District of Middle Florida (Gardner) .....	138	1,707	1,827	2,383	3,789	—	3,644
District of East Florida (Finegan) .....	95	1,082	1,106	1,326	2,478	8	2,399
Total. ....	233	2,789	2,933	3,709	6,267	8	6,043

*Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
General G.T. Beauregard, C.S. Army, commanding, December 31, 1863.*

**DISTRICT OF EAST FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen Joseph Finegan.

2d Florida Battalion (five companies), Lieut. Col.  
T.W. Brevard.  
6th Florida Battalion (seven companies), Lieut. Col.  
John M. Martin.  
Florida Company, Capt. W.S. Eichelberger.  
Florida Company, Capt. John McNeill.  
Florida Company, Capt. B.L. Reynolds.  
2d Florida Cavalry (five companies), Lieut. Col.  
A.H. McCormick.

Florida Cavalry Company, Capt. W.H. Cone.  
Florida Cavalry Company, Capt. J.D. Stark.  
Milton Artillery, Company A, Capt. Joseph L. Dunham.  
Milton Artillery, Company B, Capt. H.F. Abell.

**DISTRICT OF MIDDLE FLORIDA.\***

Brig. Gen. W.M. Gardner.

**SUB-DISTRICT.**

Col. Caraway Smith.

64th Georgia,† Col. John W. Evans,  
2d Florida Cavalry (four companies),  
Col. Caraway Smith.  
5th Florida Cavalry Battalion, Maj. G.W. Scott.  
Florida Cavalry Company, Capt. A.A. Griffin.  
Echols (Georgia) Artillery, Capt. John H. Tiller.  
Georgia Siege Artillery (one company),  
Capt. C.G. Campbell.  
Leon Light Artillery, Capt. Robert H. Gamble.

**SUB-DISTRICT.**

Col. A.B. Montgomery.

4th Florida Battalion, Maj. John H. Gee.  
4th Florida Battalion (one company), Capt. G.T. Floyd.  
5th Florida Cavalry Battalion (one company),  
Capt. W.A. Jeter.  
5th Florida Cavalry Battalion (one company),  
Capt. W.H. Milton.  
Partisan Rangers, Capt. W.J. Robinson.

**SUB-DISTRICT.**

Col. William J. Magill.

1st Georgia (Regulars), Maj. R.A. Wayne.  
28th Georgia Battalion (four companies), Maj. A. Bonaud.  
28th Georgia Battalion (three companies), Capt. Joseph A. Cotten.  
2d Florida Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Clinton Thigpin.  
5th Florida Cavalry Battalion, Company C, Capt. A.C. Smith.

\* Reported by General Gardner as the District of West Florida, but recognized at department headquarters as above. A return for the "District of Middle Florida" of same date, embracing the same troops, and signed by Col. Caraway Smith, as commanding officer, is also on file. See Gardner's assignment October 6, p. 397. He assumed command October 30.

† Ordered December 28, to Savannah, Ga.

During a flag of truce agreed on between Major George B. Fox, USA, and Captain T. E. Buckman, CSA, on King's Ferry road west of Jacksonville, Florida, toward Confederate Camp Milton, Private Allen Vankirk, of Company H, Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers Mounted Infantry, was mistakenly captured by a Lieutenant Colonel Abner H. McCormick, CSA, commanding an advanced position not aware of the flag. After notes between Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding the District of Florida, at Jacksonville, and Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, at Camp Milton, the issue was resolved and Private Vankirk escorted to Union lines on 1 May.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 80-83, 459-460)

Report of troops for the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding, indicated 16,568 men aggregate present and absent for the District of Florida, and the organization of troops indicated the location of companies in the District. See Charts for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 457, 459)

#### MAY

- 1 U.S.S. Fox, Acting Master Charles T. Chase, captured sloop Oscar outbound from St. Marks, Florida, with cargo of cotton. (CWNC: pg IV-51)

Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, assumed command of the Department of the South, relieving Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, who was ordered to Fort Monroe, Virginia.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 79)

Captain McKay, CSA, commanding Fort Brooke and Tampa, Florida, departed with a small force of thirty men detailed to drive cattle north to Confederate commissioners.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 389-391)

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones commanding, for April, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.			Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.	Aggregate present and absent last return.
	Officers.	Men.	Effective total present.				
Military District of Florida (Anderson)	656	9,115	9,908	11,418	16,568	69	16,375

*Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
Maj. Gen. Smauel Jones commanding, April 30, 1864.*

**DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.**

Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson.

12th Georgia Battalion, Maj. George M. Hanvey.  
4th Florida Battalion, Maj. John H. Gee.  
Robinson's Independent (Florida) Company, Capt. W.J. Robinson.  
28th Georgia Battalion, Maj. A. Bonaud.  
1st Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. Charles F. Hopkins.  
2nd Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. Theodore W. Brevard.  
6th Florida Battalion, Lieut. Col. John M. Martin.  
26th Virginia, Col. Powhatan R. Page.  
59th Virginia, Col. William B. Tabb.  
6th Georgia, Lieut. Col. John T. Lofton.  
19th Georgia, Col. James H. Neal.  
23d Georgia, Col. James H. Huggins.  
27th Georgia, Col. Charles T. Zachry.  
28th Georgia, Col. Tully Graybill.  
1st Georgia Regulars, Col. William J. Magill.  
32d Georgia, Lieut. Col. William H. Pruden.  
Reynolds' Independent (Florida) Company, Capt. B.L. Reynolds.  
4th Florida Battalion (one company), Capt. G.J. Floyd.  
Guerard's (Georgia) battery, Capt. John M. Guerard.  
Milton (Florida) Artillery, Company A, Capt. Joseph L. Dunham.  
Echols (Georgia) Artillery, Capt. John H. Tiller.  
Chatham (Georgia) Artillery, Capt. John F. Wheaton.  
Kilcrease (Florida) Artillery, Capt. F.L. Villepigue.  
Gamble's (Florida) company heavy artillery, Capt. Robert H. Gamble.  
29th Georgia Battalion Cavalry (seven companies).  
2d Florida Battalion Cavalry.  
5th Georgia Cavalry, Col. Robert H. Anderson.  
5th Florida Battalion Cavalry, Maj. G.W. Scott.  
2d Florida Cavalry, Col. Caraway Smith.  
Cone's (Florida) Independent Company, Capt. W.H. Cone.  
Stark's (Florida) Independent Company, Capt. J.D. Stark.

- 3 Colonel Stark Fellows, USA, commanding three companies of the Second Colored Regiment [200 men], and Captain Henry W. Bowers, USA, assistant adjutant-general, with eighty men, and Captain Henry A. Crane, USA, with two companies of the Second Florida Cavalry, [140 men], and thirty seamen under Acting Master William Fales, U.S. bark J. L. Davis, embarked on Army transports and departed Key West, for Tampa, Florida. The gunboat U.S. Honduras accompanied the expedition.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 389-390)

A delegation of planters and farmers in Marianna, Jackson County, Florida, wrote Florida Governor John Milton a letter stating their concern over the organization of a company of reserve corps "made up of men the greater part of whom are between the years of forty-five and fifty, with a few boys between seventeen and eighteen years," to report for duty on the 12th during the planting season. They indicated "the calling of these men in the service at a time when the corps require their constant attention seemed to be a very unwise policy, especially when other companies were encamped near-by who could perform camp service, the duty required of these men....If these men ... are compelled even for a month to be absent from home, in the greatest number of cases their crops will be lost ... Already the tithe corn of this county has been exhausted, and an order is now in force requiring a part of the meat, equal to one-half of the usual amount for farms, together with a call for corn, for the troops ... therefore the greater necessity for production and that our small farmers should be allowed to remain at home during the crop season.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 349)

Report of Confederate light artillery in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding indicated the battery companies in the District of Florida. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 464, 468)

*Batteries of light artillery in the Department of South Carolina,  
Georgia, and Florida [May 3, 1864].*

DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

Florida Battery, Capt. R.H. Gamble: Two 3-inch rifle guns, two 12-pounder howitzers.  
Kilcrease Light Artillery, Capt. F.L. Villepigue: Two 6-pounders, two 12-pounder howitzers.  
Florida Battery, Capt. J.L. Dunham: One Napoleon, one 12-pounder howitzer, two 6-pounder James.  
Echols Light Artillery, Capt. J.H. Tiller: Two 12-pounder howitzers, two 6-pounders.  
Abell's battery, Capt. H.F. Abell: Two Napoleons, two 6-pounders.

*Batteries of position in the department.*

DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

Battery Saint Mark's: Two 24-pounders, three 32-pounders.  
Batteries on the Apalachicola: Upper, one 24-pounder, one 32-pounder; lower, three 32-pounders.  
Battery at Hammock's Landing: Three 18-pounders, barbette, one 24-pounder, two 32-pounders.  
Tampa Bay: About five guns (not reported).

- 4 Brigadier General William H. Gardner, CSA, commanding the Sub-District No. 2 [Middle Florida], requested to be relieved and be assigned to active duties in the field. Florida Governor John Milton recommended Colonel William Miller, CSA, as his replacement.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 347)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, instructed to hold Fort Barrancas "to the last extremity, but if compelled by vastly superior forces, then withdraw to Santa Rosa Island and Fort Pickens," which he was ordered "to hold at all events."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 84)

- 5 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, ordered to command the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General William Birney, USA, who was ordered to report to the Department of the South, headquarters, Hilton Head, South Carolina.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 86)

- 5-6 Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia. Grant, Meade (U) v. Lee (C).

- 5-7 Expedition from Key West under the command of Colonel Stark Fellows, USA, arrived at Tampa Bay, Florida. Captain Henry W. Bowers, USA, landed twelve miles from Tampa, at Gadsden's Point on the west side of the harbor, and Colonel Fellows, landed three miles from the town on the south side of the harbor, to enter Tampa from the north. Another landing was effected at bay near Point Deshow, about three miles from Tampa. The expedition entered Tampa, which was deserted. Acting Master William Fales, USN, and the naval detachment from the U.S. bark J. L. Davis, captured a sloop loaded with cotton. Twenty prisoners were taken [only six soldiers], the battery with guns destroyed, the heavy guns disabled, part of the property at the light-house at Egmont Key was confiscated [but the lens not found], and \$6,000 in Confederate money secured. Before departing on the 7th, a rebel force appeared under a flag of truce "ostensibly to receive permission to take away the wife of McKay, the rebel commander."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 389-391)

- 7 Florida Governor John Milton wrote President Jefferson Davis about the organization of military units "those between [the ages of] seventeen and eighteen and forty-five and fifty to act as minute-men" ... when agriculture needs were the most important at this time. He suggested these men "not be



ordered from their farms for military service until the necessity should arise." Milton further indicated that Brigadier General William Gardner, CSA, had requested to be relieved from the command of the sub-District of Middle Florida, and he recommended Colonel William Miller, CSA, commandant of conscription, as Gardner's relief.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 347)

8-21      Battles of Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia. Grant, Meade (U) v. Lee (C).

9      **U.S. Army transport Harriet A. Weed**, supporting troop movements in the St. Johns River, Florida, and towing a schooner, was destroyed by a torpedo near the mouth of Cedar Creek, twelve miles below Jacksonville. Sinking in less than a minute, the steamer became the third victim of stepped-up Confederate torpedo activity in the St. Johns River in less than six weeks. While reconnoitering the river near **Harriet A. Weed's** hulk, **U.S.S. Vixen** recovered a torpedo of the type that destroyed the transport. The keg torpedo was, reported Charles O. Boutelle of the Coast Survey, "simple and effectual..."  
(CWNC: pg IV-59: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 392)

Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN, commanding the West Gulf Blockading Squadron, suggested to U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, the placement of "two 15-inch guns on the Old Spanish Battery at Barrancas, and two in an earth-work on the beach on the western front of Fort Pickens, [rendering] the port of Pensacola, Florida, safe against attacks of almost any enemy." The work was performed and completed by late June.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 108-109, 149)

Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, was informed by Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida that he had been instructed to send "all the effective infantry in the Department to Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee... and [General Jones] hoped General Anderson would be able, with his present force, to give all needful protection to his district." Also, that Brigadier General Truman Seymour, USA, "the hero of Olustee" had been captured in Virginia."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 479)

12      Boat expedition under Acting Lieutenant William Budd, **U.S.S. Somerset**, transported a detachment of troops to Apalachicola, Florida, to disperse a Confederate force thought to be in the vicinity. After disembarking the troops, Budd and his launches discovered a detachment of Confederate sailors (eleven officers and fifty crew-members), from the **C.S.S. Chattahoochee**, Lieutenant George W. Gift, CSN, commanding,

embarking on a boat expedition to capture the **U.S.S. Adela**, one of the vessels blockading Apalachicola. After a brief skirmish, Budd succeeded in driving them into the town and capturing their boats and equipment.  
(CWNC: pg IV-59-60; pg VI-208)

**U.S.S. Beauregard**, Acting Master Edward C. Healy, seized blockade running sloop **Resolute** off Indian River, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-60)

Because of "barbarous treatment" by some Confederate soldiers of captured black troops in the Union Army, Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, commanding the Department of the South made several suggestions "to be laid before proper authorities." (1) All prisoners of war captured by black troops be set aside as a reserved class. (2) To this class add a portion of all prisoners taken in general engagements, in proportion to the number of colored troops serving with the army engaged. (3) When selections were made in accordance with (2), let the larger portion be of officers or of men from influential families. (4) All prisoners of the reserved class to be held for exchange for black troops, or for retaliation when such a course is unhappily found necessary. (5) Publish the names of all prisoners from the reserved class in Northern newspapers, and distribute the list to pickets, advance posts and raiding parties for distribution.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 90)

- 13 Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, assumed command of the District of Florida, including all Confederate reserve forces in the State.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 336)
- 14 Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, instructed to give "all necessary aid to Major Minor Meriwether, CSA, in his effort to secure the iron of the Fernandina and Cedar Keys Railroads, for the completion of a connection between Georgia and Florida rail road. Nothing must prevent the taking of this iron."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 484)
- 16 Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding District of Florida, ordered to form the whole of his infantry into one brigade, under the command of Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, and send it to Richmond, Virginia. Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, informed the War Department that "the brigade will be small, and formed of battalions and unattached companies, but it is all I have in this State. I greatly doubt if one-half of the men ordered will leave Florida. The order will cause desertions and disorganization." And in a letter of 17 May, he further

commented, "...I think you are not correctly informed of the number of troops in Florida....the total effective [infantry force] present in Florida [is 1,698 men]" and included an extract of troops in the District of Florida. See Chart for full text. General Finegan, with two battalions [600 strong] arrived in Charleston, South Carolina, and departed for Richmond, Virginia, on 23 May.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 117-119; Part II, pg 485)

INSERT CHART - WOR, SER I, VOL 35, PG 119)

- 17 Joint Resolution of the Confederate Congress tharked Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, and the officers and men of his command, "for the skill and gallantry displayed in achieving the signal victory of Ocean Pond, Florida, on the 20th of February." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 338)

Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, with the removal of "a good brigade of infantry from Florida," requested to be transferred to some other field, because the District was left with "one regiment and two battalions of cavalry, and three companies of artillery, with 1 brigadier general and 3 colonels to command." (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 488)

Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding U.S. Forces on the east side of the St. Johns River, Florida, received instructions "for the conduct of military operations within the limits of his command." See Appendix for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 94-95)

- 19 Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry, commanding a detachment of fifty-four men crossed the St. Johns River, in small boats, surprised and captured the Union post at Welaka, Florida. Losses: Union: 31 prisoners. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 393-394, 396, 398)

Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, reported the progress in sending, and the situation

*Extract from return of the District of Florida, Maj. Gen. Patton Anderson  
commanding, 17 May 1864.*

Arm of service.	Effective total.	Total.	Aggregate.
Infantry .....	1,698	1,872	2,046
Light artillery .....	244	263	275
Cavalry .....	1,218	1,430	1,462
Total .....	3,160	3,565	3,783

in the state after the departure of, "a good brigade of infantry under Brigadier General Joseph Finegan, CSA, to Virginia." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 491-493)

- 20 Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry, commanding a detachment of fifty-four men attacked and captured the Union post at Saunders, Florida, on the east side of the St. Johns River. Losses: Union: 25 prisoners.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 394, 396, 398)

- 21 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding District of Florida, ordered Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding Union forces east of the St. Johns River, Florida, to concentrate his forces by withdrawing all his small infantry guards from Volusia, Welaka, Horse Landing, Saunders, and the south side of Dunn's Creek's mouth, and establish his cavalry so that the whole north side of Dunn's Lake and Creek and Haw Creek could be watched and patrolled. A later message informed Colonel Noble that General Gordon had moved from Jacksonville to Volusia, and directed him to "push forward to the same point, and beyond ... with all his available infantry and cavalry."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 394, Part II, pg 99)

President Jefferson Davis ordered Major General J. Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida to let Confederate Reserve troops in the state "as far as consistent with public safety, to follow their industrial pursuits."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 339)

- 22 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding District of Florida, embarked on the steamer Charles Houghton with 200 men and departed Jacksonville, Florida, for an expedition up the St. Johns River, accompanied by two gun boats, U.S.S. Ottawa, Lieutenant Commander S. Livingston Breese, USN, and the little steamer-tug Columbine, Acting Ensign Francis W. Sanborn, USN. The expedition stopped at Picolata and embarked six companies of Colonel James C Beecher's [USA] regiment, and men from the One hundred and fifty-seventh New York Regiment, totaling 700 men. General Gordon proceeded to the landing opposite Palatka, Florida, and disembarked his troops for a march to Volusia. The U.S.S. Ottawa and steamer Charles Houghton were ordered to the mouth of Dunn's Creek to afford protection for the steamer-tug Columbine which had been sent up river to give assistance to the Union forces at Volusia. That night the U.S.S. Ottawa, Lieutenant Commander S. Livingston Breese, USN, was fired on by Confederate batteries at Brown's Landing, suffered minor damage, and no casualties, before compelling the Confederates to withdraw.

(CWNC: pg IV-62: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 394)

- 23 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding District of Florida with the force from Jacksonville arrived at Haw Creek in the vicinity of Volusia, Florida. Colonel William H. Noble, USA, with cavalry was at Volusia. **U.S.S. Columbine**, Acting Ensign Francis W. Sanborn, and the transport steamer **Charles Houghton** were attacked at Horse Landing, near Palatka. After a heated engagement with batteries from a section of Milton Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Mortimer Bates, CSA, and twenty picked riflemen from the Second Florida Cavalry, Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding, the **Columbine**, a 130-ton side-wheeler operating in support of General Gordon's forces and with soldiers embarked, lost steering control and ran onto a mud bank, where she was riddled by the accurate Confederate fire and captured. Ensign Sanborn surrendered "to prevent the further useless expenditure of human life." Shortly after taking the prize, she was destroyed to avoid recapture by **U.S.S. Ottawa**, Lieutenant Commander S. Livingston Breese. The **Houghton** received three direct hits, but was not disabled, and proceeded to Orange Mills. Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren, USN, wrote: "The loss of the **Columbine** will be felt most inconveniently; her draft was only 5 or 6 feet, and having only two such steamers, the services of which are needed elsewhere, can not replace her." Losses: Union: 20 killed, 65 captured [47 enlisted black troops].  
(CWNC: pg IV-62: WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 395, 397)
- 24 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding District of Florida, with his force at Haw Creek, ordered Colonel William H. Noble, USA, to send his cavalry to drive in "herds of beef-cattle, which ... were going north to feed the rebel armies... and to tell the **Columbine** [not knowing that it was captured] to go down the river; [St. Johns, he] had no further use for her." He retained infantry at a camp nine miles south of St. Augustine, St. Augustine, and Picolata, Florida. Two hundred men of the One hundred and forty-fourth New York Regiment ordered to Jacksonville ... deeming it not "advisable to attempt to pursue the enemy across the river, being totally unprepared to do it."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 395)
- 25 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding District of Florida, commanding Union expedition on the St. Johns River, reconnoitered the vicinity of Palatka, reported no Confederates at Camp Finegan, and Southern forces in East Florida were: "At Camp Milton, the Second Florida Cavalry, Colonel Abner H. McCormick, CSA, 600 men; Camp Milton and McGirt's Creek strongly fortified. At Baldwin, no troops, strong fortifications, two pieces of artillery. At the trestle bridge across the St. Marys [River] fortification being erected by negroes. Of State troops raised for State defense, three companies expected at Camp Milton ... Captain John J. Dickison's cavalry [200 men] stationed at Palatka.

Dunham's artillery of light pieces is on the St. Johns River near Welaka, Saunders, and Horse Landing." Union expedition returned to Jacksonville.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 396)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, with thirty men of Captain Schmidt's Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, crossed Bayou Grand to reconnoiter and "test" Confederate positions. At Jackson's Bridge, near Pensacola, Florida, four Confederate cavalry pickets captured. After a search of adjacent swamps the detachment returned to Fort Barrancas by "a circuitous route around the head of Bayou Grand near the Perdido," and ascertained that Colonel Henry Maury, CSA, commanding the Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry had returned to Fifteen-Mile Station [Gonzales' farm], Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 398-399)

Colonel James Shaw, Jr., USA, commanding a detachment of 400 infantry, two sections of artillery, and some mounted infantry, under orders from Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding District of Florida, departed Jacksonville, for Baldwin, Florida, "to ascertain the presence of an enemy in [the] front." When they crossed Cedar Creek and arrived within a half-mile of Camp Finegan they were attacked by Confederate infantry and a few cavalry. After a "brisk fire of infantry and artillery ... the advance was checked, and the forces withdrew." General Gordon reported the Confederate "steamer *St. Marys* was within my lines. I can take possession of her at any time when the navy are ready to operate."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 399)

25-JUNE 9            Battle between Major General William T. Sherman, USA, and Major General Joseph E. Johnston, CSA, around New Hope Church, Georgia.

26    Major General John G. Foster, USA, assumed command of the Department of the South.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 104)

26-JULY 30            Collision occurred between a civil court and Confederate military authorities when a petition for Injunction was filed with the chancery court of Alachua County, within the Suwannee circuit of Florida, and granted by Judge James B. Dawkins, barring removal of "iron rails, chairs, bolts, and spikes of the Florida Railroad," by Lieutenant Jason M. Fairbanks, CSA, and other agents of the Confederate Government. On the 28th the order was disregarded, and the court issued a Rule and required the defendants to appear and show cause. Major General J. Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, and Judge

Dawkins turned to Governor Milton. See Appendix 30 June 1864 with 9 enclosures, 5 July 1864 with endorsements, and 22 July 1864, for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 351-359, 362-364; Vol 35, Part II, pg 594)

- 28 U.S.S. **Ariel**, Acting Master James J. Russell, captured sloop **General Finegan** north of Chassahowitzka Bay, Florida. The blockade runner's crew attempted to set her afire, but **Ariel** saved the cargo of cotton and turpentine and then destroyed **General Finegan** as unseaworthy.  
(CWNC: pg IV-63)

Skirmish near Jacksonville, Florida. No circumstantial reports on file in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 2, 688)

- 29 Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding U.S. Forces on the east side of the St. Johns River, sent steamers **Alice Price** and **Mary Benton**, ordered to embark his command and return to Jacksonville, Florida, before daylight, "so that the men may disembark without being observed."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 107)

- 31 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding troops temporarily organized in two brigades under Colonels William H. Noble and James Shaw, Jr., USA, departed Jacksonville, Florida, for Confederate Camps Milton and Finegan, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 2, 9, 35)

#### JUNE

- 1 Brigadier General William Birney, USA, ordered to command the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, ordered to Washington, D.C.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 103, 110)
- 1-3 Battle of Coldharbor, Virginia. Grant, Meade (U) v. Lee (C).
- 2 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding troops temporarily organized in two brigades under Colonels William H. Noble and James Shaw, Jr., USA, after skirmishes with Confederate forces captured and destroyed Camps Milton and Finegan, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 2, 9, 35)
- 3 Brigadier General George H. Gordon, USA, commanding troops temporarily organized in two brigades under Colonels William H. Noble and James Shaw, Jr., USA, returned to Jacksonville, Florida, after burning "extensive and imposing" Confederate fortifications in front of the city.



(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 35

- 6 Brigadier General William Birney, USA, assumed command of the District of Florida, in Jacksonville, Florida, and received from Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, instructions for disposition of district forces and responsibilities. General Birney requested clarifications on 8 June, with answer on 15 June. See Appendix 6, 8, and 15 June 1864, for full texts.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 19; Part II, pg 113-114, 119-121, 132-133)

Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, issued General Orders No. 80. addressing "sanitary regulations for the government of the troops serving in the department ... to be strictly enforced by all officers having charge of districts, posts, or camps." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 112-113)

- 7 Suspecting that Confederates were using cotton to erect breastworks on the banks of the Suwannee River, Florida, boat expedition commanded by Acting Ensign Louis R. Chester, composed of men from U.S.S. Clyde and Sagamore, proceeded upriver and captured over 100 bales of cotton in the vicinity of Clay Landing.

(CWNC: pg IV-70)

- 8 Report of Union artillery in the Department of the South, showed the District of Florida with fortifications at Fernandina, Yellow Bluff, Picolata, Jacksonville, and St. Augustine, Florida. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 119)

*Organization of Artillery Department of the South, 8 June 1864.*

DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

*Fernandina.*

First. fort Clinch.

Second. Small battery, to command railroad bridge, Saint John's River, and Jacksonville, Saint John's Bluff, blockhouse for infantry.

*Yellow Bluff.*

Two small works for infantry defense; in one a carronade is mounted.

*Picolata.*

Block-house for infantry, two 6-pounders.

*Jacksonville.*

The town is surrounded by a line of inclosed works (redoubts and lunettes), connected by rifle-pits. Beginning at the right, they are as follows:

First. Battery Hamilton, open work for field guns.

Second. Redoubt Reed, three guns.

Third. Redoubt Fribley, four guns.

Fourth. Battery McCrea, for field guns, between Nos. 2 and 3.

Fifth. Battery Myrick, for field guns, commands railroad.

Sixth. Redoubt Hatch, four guns.

Seventh. Redoubt Sammon, three guns.

Eight. Fort Seymour, four guns.

*Saint Augustine.*

Fort Marion.

The works in the Northern District and District of Florida are all in excellent condition. Those in the Middle District require extensive repairs and alteration. These are being made as rapidly as possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. R. SUTER,

First Lieut., U.S. Engineers, Chief Engineer.

- 9 U.S.S. **Rosalie**, Acting Master Peter F. Coffin, captured steamer **Emma** at Marco Pass, Florida, with cargo of blacksmith's coal.  
(CWNC: pg IV-72)
- 10 U.S.S. **Union**, Acting Lieutenant Edward Conroy, captured sloop **Caroline** attempting to run the blockade at Jupiter Inlet, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-72)
- 13 Major Augustus Vignos, USA, commanding six companies of the One hundred and seventh Ohio, ordered to assume command of Fernandina and Amelia Island, Florida, with headquarters at Fort Clinch, and given instructions of operation. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 128-129)
- Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, notified Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, that five Union generals and 45 field officers, prisoners of war from the Battle of Olustee, were sent to Charleston, South Carolina, "for safe keeping."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 132)
- 14 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, reported three companies of Confederate cavalry [about 100 men] near Milton, Florida, and the placement of torpedoes at different locations in the Blackwater River between Milton and Pierce's Point.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 130)
- 17 Major General J. Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, in order to help foster good morale and assist with "agricultural pursuits" directed that "one third of the officers and men of the reserve companies mustered into service, and present for duty, be furloughed for twenty days, and that immediately upon the return of [these] men, the same privilege be extended to another third of the companies, to be repeated until all have been furloughed."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 341)
- 19 C.S.S. **Alabama**, Admiral Raphael Semmes, CSN, sunk off

Cherbourg, France, by **U.S.S. Kearsarge**, Commodore John A. Winslow, USN.

- 20 Florida Governor John Milton indicated to Major General J. Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, his views on the defense of the State and the result of the action taken by Brigadier General William H. Gardner, CSA, commanding the sub-District No. 1 [Middle Florida], against the deserters in Taylor and La Fayette Counties. Governor Milton stated "the course pursued has increased the number of deserters and excited among them the vindictive purpose to avenge the wrongs inflicted, and to liberate the women and children and aged men, who have been deprived of their liberty and property upon a suspicion of disloyalty. The treatment of these unfortunate people....seems to me to have been extremely cruel and an abuse of military authority... The effect has been to make an increased force necessary to protect the lives and property of loyal citizens from retaliation by the deserters ..." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 342-344)
- 25-27 Captain W. B. Amos, CSA, commanding Company I, Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry, with two small boats and fifteen men for operations on Yellow River, Florida. Upon arrival at the mouth he captured a small schooner, and on seeing another small schooner coming up the bay, hid his men and succeeded in capturing her and crew. Captain Amos continued down the Yellow River to East Bay and on information of the schooner **Osceola** anchored four miles from shore, he boarded her, and when the crew took to the guns after being ordered to surrender, his men opened fire. Captain Amos and party returned to the Confederate camp in East Florida, on the 27th. Losses: Union 3 killed, 2 prisoners.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 404-405)
- 26 **U.S.S. Norfolk Packet**, Acting Ensign George W. Wood, captured sloop **Sarah Mary** off Mosquito Inlet, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg IV-83)
- 27 Major General Joseph E. Johnston, CSA, defeated Major General William T. Sherman, USA, at Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia.
- 30 Acting Ensign Edward H. Watkeys, commanding a launch from **U.S.S. Roebuck**, captured sloop **Last Resort** off Indian River Inlet, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg IV-83)

Florida Governor John Milton recommended the appointment of two commissioners to look into claims of indemnity against the Confederate Government for the destruction and loss of property as the result of the military actions against

deserters in Taylor and La Fayette Counties. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 349-351)

Captain Alfred F. Sears, USA, New York Volunteer Engineers, stationed at Fort Clinch, Florida, reported the formation of a sand bar "in consequence of foreign deposits" which he conjectured included "the guns thrown off the end of the wharf near Fort Clinch" by Confederate forces when they evacuated the area in 1862. As a result he had "been obliged to abandon the location as a landing."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 159)

Report of troops in the Department of the South, Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding, indicated 4,274 men aggregate present and absent in the District of Florida. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 160)

Report of troops in the Department of the Gulf and serving in Florida, indicated 3,158 men in the District of West Florida, and 2,786 men in the District of Key West and Tortugas, aggregate present and absent. The organization of troops reported the companies in the District of West Florida, and in the District of Key West and Tortugas. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 160-161)

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for month of June, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
District of Florida (Birney) .....	100	2,553	3,366	4,274	—	—

*Abstract from returns of the troops belonging to Department of the Gulf and  
serving in Florida, for the month of June, 1864.*

Command	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.		Headquarters.
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.	
District of West Florida (Asboth) . . . .	88	2,067	2,847	3,158	127	6	Barrancas.
District of Key West and Tortugas (Woodbury) . . . . .	37	702	1,756	2,786	(*)	(*)	Key West.
Total . . . . .	125	2,769	4,613	5,944	127	6	

*Troops belonging to the Department of the Gulf and serving in Florida, June 1864.*

**DISTRICT OF WEST FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. Alexander Asboth.

*First Brigade (Barrancas).*

Col. William C. Holbrook.

25th U.S. Colored Infantry, Companies A, D, F, G, I,  
and K, Lieut. Col. Frederick L. Hitchcock.

82d U.S. Colored Infantry, Lieut. Col. George Tucker.

86th U.S. Colored Infantry, Col. M. Wilson Plumly.

7th Vermont, Companies A, B, E, and H, Capt. Mahlon  
M. Young.

*Fort Barrancas.*

Lieut. Col. David B. Peck.

7th Vermont, Companies C, G, and I, Capt. Salmon  
Dutton.

*Fort Pickens.*

Maj. Harvey A. Allen.

25th U.S. Colored Infantry, Companies B, C, E, and H,  
Maj. James W. H. Reisinger.

7th Vermont, Company D, Capt. George E. Croff.

7th Vermont, Company F, Capt. Edgar N. Bullard.

7th Vermont, Company K, Lieut. Henry Stowell.

*Cavalry.*

1st Florida (five companies), Col. Eugene von  
Kilmansegge.

14th New York, Company M, Capt. Adolph Schmidt.

**DISTRICT OF KEY WEST AND TORTUGAS.**

*Cedar Keys.*

2d Florida Cavalry (seven companies), Maj. Edmund C.  
Weeks.

*Fort Jefferson.*

110th New York, Col. Charles Hamilton.

Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Woodbury.

*Key West.*

2d U.S. Colored Infantry, Lieut. Col. Benjamin R. Townsend.

## JULY

- 1-10      Captain Jonathan W. Childs, USA, of the Second U.S. Colored Troops, commanding an expedition of 240 men from the Second Florida Cavalry and several companies of the Second U.S. Colored Troops, embarked from Fort Myers, Florida on 1 July, for Bayport, on the west coast. On landing, a skirmish ensued with Confederate pickets, before they withdrew, and a detachment of Union troops followed to Brookville, 40 miles away, occasionally skirmishing along the way. Plantations of Captains Samuel E. Hope, George W. Leslie and Hooker, CSA, all commanding Confederate guerrilla parties in Southern Florida were destroyed. At Bayport sixty bales of cotton captured, and the troops returned to Fort Myers on or about the 10th July. Losses: Union: 1 wounded. Confederate: 15 prisoners. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 405-406)
- 1      U.S.S. **Merrimac**, Acting Lieutenant William Budd, captured blockade running sloop **Henrietta** at sea west of Tampa, Florida, with cargo of cotton. (CWNC: pg IV-84)
- 4      Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, reported "most of the rebel troops in West Florida and Alabama [had] left to re-enforce Johnston



at Atlanta and Polk, Forrest, and Roddey's army, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, in Mississippi ... [leaving] ... between the Escambia and Chattahoochee Rivers, three companies of cavalry; and at and around Milton, one-half company at Elba, one-half at Abberville, one-half at Newton, and one at Marianna, Florida." Due to the reduced Confederate strength in the area General Asboth recommended sending an expedition of 2,000 men on transport steamers to St. Andrews Bay to destroy the salt works, then proceed to Columbus, Georgia, then to Montgomery, Alabama. He calculated the expedition would cover 120 miles by water and 452 by land and require sixteen to twenty days.

(WOR: Ser I, vol 35, Part II, pg 165-166)

- 6 Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, Second Florida Cavalry, commanding 200 men departed Cedar Keys, Florida, to reconnoiter Confederate strength at Station 4. A skirmish ensued three miles beyond Station 4, and due to the large force of Confederates, Major Weeks fell back to the bayou, but could not cross due to high water. Three assaults repulsed before the Union forces crossed the bayou and returned to Day Key. Losses: Union: 8 wounded.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 407-408)

Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding District of Florida, reported the movement of Confederate forces under the command of Colonel Abner H. McCormick, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry, toward Trout Creek, with reconnaissance of "Yellow Bluff, the mouth of Trout Creek, near the gun-boat Ottawa, and the construction of a good lookout in the top of a tree overlooking the gun-boat." Because of the removal of Union troops from Jacksonville for duty elsewhere and the rumors that this area was to be evacuated, General Birney asked "how should he guard Picolata and the east bank of the St. Johns River ... and to send one of the new regiments of colored troops to Florida." The reply on 16 July indicated the number of troops in General Birney's command was considerably greater than that section of the Department of the South demanded "in a military point of view." Furthermore, "if [he] could not properly guard the St. Johns River [he] must prepare to make St. Augustine [his] base, keeping Jacksonville and Picolata as advanced points of defense if practicable ... and, as to the idea of the abandonment of the country, there was no necessity for the circulation of such an idea, as the country was not to be abandoned unless General Birney was forced to do so."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 171-173, 176-177)

- 7-12 Small schooners U.S.S. *Ariel*, Acting Master James J. Russell, *Sea Bird*, Acting Ensign Ezra L. Robbins, and *Stonewall*, Acting Master Henry B. Carter, and 29-ton sloop *Rosalie*, Acting Master Peter F. Coffin, transported Union troops on a raid on Brookville, Florida. After disembarking

the soldiers, **Ariel** and **Sea Bird** proceeded to Bayport, Florida, where a landing party captured a quantity of cotton and burned the customs house. The Union troops joined the two schooners at Bayport on 11 July, and the force returned to Anclote Keys the next day.

(CWNC: pg IV-86)

- 10 **U.S.S. Roebuck**, Acting Master William L. Martine, captured blockade running British schooner **Terrapin**, at Jupiter Inlet, Florida, with cargo of cotton and turpentine.

(CWNC: pg IV-87)

- 11 Landing party from **U.S.S. James L. Davis**, Acting Master William N. Griswold, destroyed Confederate salt works near Tampa, Florida. The works were capable of producing some 150 bushels of salt per day.

(CWNC: pg IV-87)

Major General Jubal A. Early, CSA, with Confederate forces reached outskirts of Washington, D.C.

- 12 Major George Upshur Mayo, CSA, Assistant Inspector of Artillery for the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, made and filed a report on the "armament of Florida and its conditions." See Chart below and Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 584-588)

Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. July 14, 1864.

	Battery at—		
	Saint Mark's.	Hammock's Landing	Fort Cobb
32-pounder smooth-bores .....	2	2	2
32-pounder, rifled .....	2	—	—
24-pounder smooth-bores .....	—	4	2
32-pounder bolts .....	70	—	—
32-pounder rifle shell .....	123	—	—
32-pounder shot .....	343	—	—
32-pounder shell .....	60	—	—
32-pounder canister .....	52	—	—
24-pounder shot .....	277	—	—
24-pounder shell .....	1	—	—
24-pounder grape .....	51	—	—
32-pounder rifle cartridges .....	328	—	—
32-pounder cartridges .....	750	—	—
24-pounder cartridges .....	48	—	—
Friction-primers .....	900	—	—
	Company A, Milton Artillery.	Kilcrease Artillery.	Horse artillery.
12-pounder Napoleon .....	1	—	—
12-pounder howitzers .....	1	2	1
6-pounder Napoleons .....	—	2	—
3-inch rifle .....	—	—	1
12-pounder shell .....	—	78	—
12-pounder shot .....	34	—	—
12-pounder spherical case .....	115	126	—
12-pounder canister .....	83	64	7
6-pounder shot .....	—	131	—
6-pounder spherical case .....	—	125	—
6-pounder canister .....	—	74	—
3-inch rifle shell .....	—	—	41

INSERT CHART OF ARTILLERY IN DEPT SC, GA, FLA  
DATED 14 JULY 64

15-20            Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding District of Florida, departed Jacksonville, Florida with men of the Third U.S. Colored Troops [Infantry] and Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, landed at the mouth of Trout Creek and advanced to its source, Confederates having established a camp on the creek, in closed proximity to the Union post at Yellow Bluff. A running skirmish ensued for ten miles at Hall's Branch, Little Trout Creek, and Big Trout Creek (Higginbotham's) with Captain L. G. McElvey, CSA, commanding fifty-five men of the Fifth Florida Cavalry Battalion. After destroying bridges over the south branch of Trout Creek, a squad of cavalry went to St. Marys and another to Callahan. Baldwin was occupied and the railroad bridges spanning the St. Marys River were burned, which delayed the train bringing the companies of Confederate reserve troops from Gainesville. At Callahan two railroad cars loaded with railroad iron, the telegraph office fixtures and apparatus, and a quantity of munitions were destroyed. On the 19th Union forces retired toward Yellow Bluff and Jacksonville, and Confederate troops reoccupied Camp Milton, and re-established picket lines at Cedar Creek.    Loses: Union: 1 killed, 1 wounded.    Another

expedition sent up the Nassau River to Holmes' Mills, to disassemble the lumber mill "one of the first [of this type] ever erected in Florida, containing gang, rotary, and circular saw machinery, and worth now probably \$50,000." The mill machinery was loaded on the **Alice Price** and the **Sylph** and brought to Jacksonville to be reassembled "on the former site of the Empire Mills..."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 35, 410-413)

- 16 Landing party from U.S.S. **James L. Davis**, Acting Master William N. Griswold, destroyed a Confederate salt works consisting of four boilers near Tampa, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-87)
- 20 Confederate forces under command of Colonel Hodgson, CSA, Seventh Alabama Cavalry, completed Fort Hodgson, at Camp Gonzales, Florida, 15 miles above Pensacola.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 413-414)
- 20-28 Battles around Atlanta, Georgia. Sherman (U) v. Hood (C).
- 20-29 Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, Second Florida Cavalry, commanding an expedition of 400 troops from Second Florida Cavalry and Second U.S. Colored Troops, departed Cedar Key, Florida, for St. Andrews Bay. Union force burned 100 bales of cotton on the coast, marched forty-four miles inland, burned eighty bales, two large bridges, one large grist-mill, and one camp with store-houses, and other buildings.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 406)
- 21 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of West Florida, pursuant to communications from General William T. Sherman, USA, which "required Asboth to look out for Sherman's force before the 20th or 25th of July ... near Pollard, Alabama," departed Fort Barrancas with four companies of the Seventh Vermont Veteran Volunteers, the Eighty-second U.S. Colored Infantry, six companies of the Eighty-sixth Regiment U.S. Colored Infantry, four companies of the First Florida Cavalry [not mounted], Company M, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, and one section of the First Florida Battery, [1,100 men], for Fort Hodgson at Camp Gonzales, on the Pensacola railroad, fifteen miles above Pensacola, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 413-414, 416-417; Part II, pg 181)
- 22 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, with a force from Fort Barrancas, Florida, attacked Camp Gonzales, Florida. After a brief skirmish the Confederates withdrew. Seized documents indicated Confederates expected a detached force from Union General William T. Sherman's army to head for Pensacola,

Florida. Loses: Union: no killed, several wounded. Confederate: 1 killed, 30 wounded, 8 prisoners. General Asboth destroyed captured munitions, burned Fort Hodgson, and sent seized beef-cattle to Fort Barrancas, then departed on the 23rd for Pollard, Alabama.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 413-414)

- 22-24 Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding detachments of the Thirty-fifth U.S. Colored Troops, Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry, and Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, embarked on five transports and departed Jacksonville, Florida, ascended the St. Johns River twenty-five miles to Black Creek then up this creek four miles "to an obscure landing concealed by woods." It took three nights to land the force. Major G. W. Scott, CSA, commanding detachment of the Second Florida Cavalry (98 men) moved to Middleburg near Black Creek.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 420-423)

- 24 Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding an expedition from Jacksonville, at a concealed landing on Black Creek, was attacked by Major G. W. Scott, CSA, with 98 men of the Second Florida Cavalry, acting as dismounted skirmishers, when his force began to cross the South Fork of Black Creek.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 420-421)

- 25 Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding an expedition from Jacksonville, near Whitesville marching on the Clay Hill road toward Trail Ridge skirmished with pickets from a detachment of the Second Florida Cavalry under the command of Major G. W. Scott, CSA. The Confederate troops withdrew towards Baldwin, Florida. Small trestles near Trail Ridge along with about thirty feet of track, the larger trestle on the Lake City railroad over the South Fork of the St. Marys River, and a long trestle near Baldwin were destroyed. Losses: Union: 6 wounded. Confederate: 19 prisoners. General Birney indicated he hoped the Confederate prisoners would "be held ... for exchange for colored soldiers only."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 420-422)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, returned to Fort Barrancas, Florida, from an expedition to Camp Gonzales, Florida, and Pollard, Alabama.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 415)

- 26 Lieutenant Colonel Abner H. McCormick, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry, commanding Baldwin, Florida, with 256 men, evacuated Baldwin and moved by way of Brandy Branch and Lang's Ferry, on the Big St. Marys River, toward Camp Jackson, on the west side of the south prong of the St. Marys River, arriving on the 28th.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 422-423)

- 27 Rear Admiral Theodorus Bailey, USN, wrote U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, from Key West, Florida, describing the severe epidemic of yellow fever among the officers and men of his blockading squadron: "My worst fears have been more than realized, and for more than two months the disease has held its course without abatement and is now as virulent as at any time.... The mortality on the island I am told has reached as high as 12 to 15 in a day... The squadron is much crippled..."  
(CWNC: pg IV-92)

Major General Patton Anderson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, on receipt of orders transferring him to the Army of Tennessee, issued General Order No. 32 which stated: "Ordered from this command as unexpectedly as [h]e was ordered to it, the undersigned leaves this for a more active field of duty, and trusts that the recollections entertained of him by the troops of his late command may be as pleasant as those he entertains of them. Fellow-citizens of by-gone days, fellow-soldiers of the present, I bid you farewell."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 595)

- 27-28 Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding U.S. forces at Baldwin, Florida, instructed to cancel a proposed expedition to Marion and Alachua Counties, [see endnote for text of the operation] to retain all troops at Baldwin, and that he was in command of the District of the South, pending Brigadier General William Birney, USA, going to Hilton Head to give testimony before a general court-martial. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 192 195, 197-198)

Union detachment departed Fernandina to reconnoiter as far as Callahan, Florida, and a company was sent to Callahan from Yellow Bluff, on the St. Johns River, with orders to look after a locomotive and seven cars which had been captured near Callahan Station, [15-20 JULY] because Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding the District of Florida thought "Baldwin was the key to the possession of Florida, and, if the Confederates could obtain re-enforcements they would attempt to retake the town."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 198, 209)

- 28 Brigadier General John K. Jackson, CSA, assumed command of the District of Florida, relieving Major General Patton Anderson, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 596)

- 29-31 Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, Second Florida Cavalry, commanding an expedition of troops from Second Florida Cavalry

and Second U.S. Colored Troops, departed Cedar Key, Florida, to capture cotton on the Florida Railroad at Otter Creek. A 140 bales and 150 bags unginned cotton were captured, four miles from Otter Creek the railroad bridge over the Waccasass River was destroyed, and the rails bent for a distance of one-fourth of a mile before the expedition returned to Cedar Key. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 406)

- 29 Brigadier General William Birney, USA, commanding the District of Florida, ordered Union troops at Picolata to Palatka, Florida, issued "instructions for guidance at Palatka" to Lieutenant Colonel Ulysses Doubleday, USA, and turned over command of the district to Colonel William H. Noble, USA, and departed Jacksonville, Florida. See Appendix for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 199)

- 30 Captain William L. Hubbell, USA, commanding three companies of the Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers disembarked from transport steamers and occupied Palatka, Florida. The U.S. gunboat *Hale* fired a round into the town, causing the departure of Confederate pickets, before the troops disembarked. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 35)

Executive Order issued from Governor John Milton to the People of Florida, stated the necessity for "immediate preparations to defend Florida against the raids and attacks of an enemy who are attempting to subjugate the people of the Confederate States by the basest means, regardless alike of the laws of civilization and of sentiments of humanity." General Orders No. 11 detailed specifics. See Appendix for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 371-373)

- 31 Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, assigned to command the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General William Birney, USA, who was ordered to Fort Monroe, Virginia. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 203)

Report of troops in the Department of the South, Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding indicated 5,097 men aggregate present and absent in the District of Florida, and the organization of troops indicated regiments in the District. See Charts for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 203-204)



*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster  
commanding, for July, 1864*

Command.	Present for duty.				Pieces of artillery	
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Heavy.	Field.
District of Florida (Birney) .....	123	3,147	3,948	5,097	(a)	(a)

*Troops in the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, July 31, 1864.*

**DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. William Birney.

17th Connecticut, Col. William H. Noble.

75th Ohio, Col. Andrew L. Harris.

107th Ohio, Maj. Augustus Vignos.

3d U.S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Ulysses Doubleday.

7th U.S. Colored Troops, Col. James Shaw jr.

8th U.S. Colored Troops, Maj. Edelmiro Mayer.

35th U.S. Colored Troops, Col. James C. Beecher.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry (detachment), Capt. Joseph W. Morton.

3d Rhode Island Artillery, Light Battery A, Capt. William H. Hamner.

Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding indicated 3,238 men aggregate present and absent in Jackson's Brigade [District of Florida], and the organization of troops reported companies in the District. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 598-599)

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones commanding, for July, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of light artillery.	Aggregate present last return.
	Officers.	Men.					
Jackson's brigade .....	118	1,565	1,771	2,157	3,238	8	3,238

Maj. Gen. P. Anderson ordered to the Army of Tennessee, Brig. Gen. J.K. Jackson assigned to the command.

*Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones commanding, July 31, 1864.*

**DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.**

**JACKSON'S BRIGADE.**

Brig. Gen. John K. Jackson.

2d Florida Cavalry, Maj. Robert Harrison.	
5th Florida Battalion Cavalry, Maj. G.W. Scott,	
2d Florida Cavalry (one company),	} Col. A.B. Montgomery.
5th Florida Battalion Cavalry (three companies),	
29th Georgia (eight companies),	} Lieut. Col. Arthur Hood.
Echols (Georgia) Light Artillery,	
Milton (Florida) Light Artillery, Company B,	
Campbell's (Georgia) Siege Train,	
Kilcrease (Florida) Light Artillery, Capt. F.L. Villepigue.	
Milton (Florida) Light Artillery, Capt. J.L. Dunham.	
Hawkins' (Florida) reserves, Capt. Thomas D. Hawkins.	
Hodges' (Florida) reserves, Capt. B.G. Hodges.	
Spencer's (Florida) reserves, Captain Spencer.	

## **AUGUST**

- 1-2 Brief skirmish at Palatka, Florida, resulted in Confederate forces capturing eight soldiers from the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 36)
- 2 Colonel William Miller, CSA, First Regiment Florida Volunteers, and commandant of conscripts in Florida, relieved and ordered with his command to Richmond, Virginia.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 601-602)
- 3 Palatka, Florida, abandoned, and Union forces transferred to Picolata.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 36)
- 4 Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, relieved Brigadier General William Birney, USA, assumed command of the District of Florida, reported "about 500 Union men, deserters and negroes in the vicinity of Cedar Keys, raiding toward Gainesville, Florida," and requested whether to try a previously proposed but canceled, [see 27 JULY] "raid through Alachua and Marion Counties?"  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 36; Part II, ph 215)
- 5 Mobile Bay, Alabama, South's last major port on the Gulf of Mexico, Rear Admiral Franklin Buchanan, CSN, commanding,

closed by a Union fleet under the command of Rear Admiral David G. Farragut, USN.

**U.S.S. Metacomet**, Captain Jouett, turned into a hospital ship departed Mobile Bay, Alabama, and transported wounded of both sides to Pensacola, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 223)

- 6 A detachment of twenty-six men under a flag of truce from Major General Dabney H. Maury, CSA, commanding Fort Morgan and Mobile, Alabama, brought personal letters for Rear Admiral Franklin Buchanan, CSN, previous commander of the Confederate **ram Tennessee**, and a prisoner of war at the Pensacola Navy Yard.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 425)

**U.S.S. gun-boat Metacomet**, Captain Jouett, USN, arrived at the Navy-Yard, Pensacola, Florida, having departed Mobile Bay under a flag of truce, with wounded of both sides on board.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 223)

- 7 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida reported when Confederate cavalry arrived at Gonzales' house at the mouth of Bayou Grand, Florida, they were shelled from Union guns at Fort Barrancas and ships in the harbor. He further reported "three companies of the Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry at Pine Barren Bridge, and three companies of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry near Gonzales, on the Pensacola railroad, changing their camp every night."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 424-425)

- 8 Second Battalion of the Second Maine Cavalry arrived and disembarked from U.S. Army transport steamer **Mississippi**, at the Navy-Yard, Pensacola, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 228)

Magnolia, Florida, reoccupied by Union troops, intending it as a point from which to start raids into Alachua and Marion Counties, and as a point for refugees and negroes to reach the St. Johns River.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 229-230)

- 10 Skirmish between Confederate cavalry and the One hundred and second U.S. Colored Troops, engaged in destroying the railroad in front of Baldwin, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 426)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of Pensacola and West Florida, advised that due to Union operations in the vicinity of Mobile, Alabama, Confederates may make a move against Pensacola. Also, he was requested to make "demonstrations with his cavalry to deter

the enemy from any attempt to re-enforce Fort Morgan from the east of Mobile Bay."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 231)

- 12 Two companies Confederate cavalry with one piece of artillery while advancing was attacked by a small force of the Seventy-fifth Ohio, under the command of Colonel James C. Beecher, USA, about three miles in front of Baldwin, Florida, where the One hundred and second U.S. Colored Troops were engaged in destroying railroad track. Skirmish ensued before the Confederates withdrew towards St. Marys. Losses: Union: 1 killed, 4 prisoners.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 426)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of Pensacola and West Florida, resubmitted his request of "more than five months ... for two small steamers of 4 to 5 feet draught, so urgently required for entering the Perdido and all the tributaries of the Pensacola Bay, the Escambia, Blackwater, Yellow Water, and Choctawhatchee Rivers."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 233)

Brigadier General John K. Jackson, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, having requested reinforcements, which were denied, reported the "condition of affairs in the District ... pointing out certain facts, which, in his judgment, showed how eminently proper it was that reinforcements should be sent [to Florida] from some quarter." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 606-608)

- 13 Skirmish at Palatka, Florida. No circumstantial reports on file in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion. Perhaps a duplicate report of the skirmish on 1-2 July.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 2, 701)

- 13-14 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of West Florida, departed Fort Barrancas, Pensacola, Florida, with a force of infantry, cavalry, and artillery of 1,400 men to operate in the peninsula between Mobile Bay and the Perdido, and capture the Confederate camps in the neck below Fish River. On receipt of information that the camps [Wither: and Powell], and the Bonsecours salt works had been abandoned, he returned to Fort Barrancas. Confederate forces, on learning that General Asboth had departed Fort Barrancas with a large portion of his forces, prepared to attack the fort by moving troops to the head of the Bayou Grand, at the same time he was returning along the beach of Grand Lagoon. The unexpected quick return terminated the effort.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 426-427)

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 426-427)

- 15 Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, commanding the District of Florida, reported the small detachment of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry at Magnolia, Florida, engaged in scouting had frequent skirmishes with Second Florida Cavalry, Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 426)

Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, and One Hundred and second U. S. Colored Troops, twenty men of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry, and a detachment of Third Rhode Island Artillery, departed Baldwin after giving orders "to fire all the buildings ... and large piles of the superstructure and iron of all the [railroads of the Florida Railroad] centering there." The expedition "tore up and burned some half mile of track" of the Florida Railroad, before arriving at Trail Ridge, where Colonel Andrew L. Harris, USA, commanding an expedition to Gainesville, Florida, was resting.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 429-430; Part II, pg 238-239)

Colonel Andrew L. Harris, USA, commanding a detachment of 185 men from the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and Company A, Third Rhode Island Artillery, departed Baldwin, Florida, and proceeded by way of Darby's Station to a point on New River west of Trail Ridge where he destroyed a Confederate picket-post. Before departing Trail Ridge for Starke, Florida, the detachment rested with the expedition commanded by Colonel William N. Noble, USA, on a raid to destroy track of the Florida Railroad.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 432-33)

- 16 Colonel Andrew L. Harris, USA, commanding a detachment of men from the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Third Rhode Island Artillery, arrived at Starke, Florida, where he found Captain Joseph W. Morton, USA, and men of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry. After destroying "a lot of Confederate commissary stores and six cars," he resumed his march by way of Santa Fe Lake between Waldo and Orange Springs, toward Gainesville, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 433, 439)

Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, and One hundred and second U.S. Colored Troops, twenty men of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry, and a detachment of the Third Rhode Island Artillery, continued along the Florida Railroad making camp two and one-half miles from Starke, at a fork of the Sand Hill Lake.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 430)

Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, on receiving Brigadier General John P. Hatch's report on the commencement of a raid into Marion and Alachua Counties, Florida, instructed him that "the orders are to rest on the defensive, but this does not prohibit raids from being made that promise any adequate results, and your [Union forces] safety in Florida on the defensive will be to be constantly on the offensive in the way of raids, rapid movements, etc. In the rest of the department the quiet defensive will be observed."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 241-242)

- 17 Colonel Andrew L. Harris, USA, commanding 238 men of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, and Third Rhode Island Artillery arrived at Gainesville, Florida, and, after a brief skirmish with a company of the Second Florida Cavalry, occupied the town and committed many acts of "lawless pillaging." Within an hour Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding 175 men of the Second Florida Cavalry and Fifth Florida Cavalry, counter-attacked and forced a Union retreat toward Magnolia along the Waldo road, and scattered the Union forces. Losses: Union: 28 killed, 5 wounded, 188 prisoners. Confederate: 2 killed, 4 wounded. In later correspondence Colonel Harris was "held strictly accountable for the acts of his men on the expedition," and specific instructions for such conduct was given [see 27 SEPTEMBER].

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 427, 433-435, 439; Part II, pg 303)

Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, and One hundred and second U.S. Colored Troops, twenty men of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry, and a detachment of the Third Rhode Island Artillery, continued through the Sand Hill Lake country "a most interesting and beautiful region," burned "rebel property," and camped at Shake Rug Corner.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 430)

- 18 Colonel Andrew L. Harris, USA, commanding, 238 men retreating from the attack at Gainesville, arrived with forty-one men at Magnolia, Florida. Another forty men from the expedition arrived throughout the day.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 428, 434)

Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, and One hundred and second U.S. Colored Troops, twenty men of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Mounted Infantry, and a detachment of the Third Rhode Island Artillery, burned a large steam cotton-gin and mill, and 20,000 pounds of cotton, and camped north of Lake George.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 430)



18-30       **Moves to ditch Abraham Lincoln as Republican candidate for 1864 U.S. presidential election.**

19       Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding raiding party from Baldwin through the Sand Hill Lake area and Lake George, returned to Magnolia, Florida. Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, commanding the District of Florida, reported that "Colonel Noble did not take the route he was instructed to take. His movement was intended to be a demonstration against Lake City, to be made on the west side of the railroad. He appears to have kept almost entirely on the east side of the road." Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, indicated "Colonel Noble's report is only valuable as a record of raiding and not of fighting. His mention of his personal staff for ... service is simply ridiculous."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 430-431)

MID       Captain Theodore P. Greene, USN, assumed temporary command of the East Gulf Blockading Squadron, upon departure of Rear Admiral Theodorus Admiral Bailey, USN.  
(CWNC: pg IV-121)

MID       Lieutenant James McC. Baker, CSN, not receiving authorization from the local command to proceed with his plan to capture Fort Pickens, Pensacola, Florida, wrote Confederate Secretary of Navy, Stephen R. Mallory, outlining his scheme: "Not dreaming that we have any designs upon it, and deluding themselves [Union troops in Fort Pickens] with the idea that its isolated position renders it safe from attack, they have become exceedingly careless, having only two sentinels on duty..." Baker proposed to take a landing in force of sailors and soldiers in small boats and, "... pulling down the eastern shore of the bay into Bon Secours, and, hauling the boats across a narrow strip of land into Little Lagoon, I would enter the Gulf at a point 20 miles east of Fort Morgan and be within seven hours' pull of Fort Pickens, with nothing to interrupt our progress." A month later, after having conferred with President Davis and Major General Braxton Bragg, CSA, Secretary Mallory ordered Baker to proceed with the mission. See 25 OCTOBER.

(CWNC: pg IV-136)

20       Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, reported Confederate torpedoes, made at Mobile, Alabama, placed in the Escambia River from Cotton Ferry northward and in the Blackwater River below and above Milton, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 253)

Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, "needing a bold and

energetic officer to command the whole or a greater portion of the Confederate cavalry in Florida," requested Captain John J. Dickison, Company H, Second Florida Cavalry, be promoted to Brigadier General, "even if with temporary rank, as may enable me to place him in command."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 614)

- 21 Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, on request to exchange 500-600 prisoners of war, received instructions from Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, USA, via the US War Department that "in no circumstances will General Foster be authorized to make exchange of prisoners of war. Exchanges simply re-enforce the enemy at once, whilst we do not get the benefit of those received for two or three months, and lose the majority entirely."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 254)

- 22 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, strongly urged the Confederate War Department to send reinforcements to this military district stating: "The enemy has recently made demonstrations in East Florida ... and though the injury inflicted upon us is much less than it was apprehended it would be, it has resulted more from the lack of spirit and determination on the part of the enemy than our ability to drive them away. You are aware of the great importance portions of Florida are to us in many points of view, especially for its productions of cattle, hogs, sugar, and molasses. The most productive portions of the State, and the capital itself, are greatly exposed ... Repeated calls have been made upon me by the brigadier general [William M. Gardner] commanding in that district and by the Governor [John Milton] for re-enforcements ... I have not heretofore urged upon the War Department the importance of sending additional forces here, because I knew the Government was sorely pressed for men in Virginia and North Georgia ... [but the condition in this department is now exposed] ... in view of the recent success attending the operations of the enemy's naval force in Mobile Bay..."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 127)

- 25-26 Detachment Second Florida Cavalry departed Wall's Farm, in the direction of Magnolia, Florida, to reconnoiter and ascertain the precise locality and strength of Union forces in the area and returned on the 26th.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 617)

- 27 Captain Henry A. Crane, Second Florida Cavalry, USA, commanding at Fort Myers, Florida, reported a boat and party of eight men, under the command of Corporal James H. Thompson, USA, responding to a distress signal across the river,

attacked on making shore by a detachment of Confederate troops. Losses: Union: 3 killed, several wounded. Crane further reported Confederate troops in the area were preparing to leave due to defeats in Georgia.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 52, Part I, pg 614)

- 29 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, departed Fort Barrancas with 200 men of the Second Maine Cavalry, two companies of the Nineteenth Iowa Infantry, and two pieces of the First Florida Battery embarked on U.S. transport steamers Clinton and Planter, for Milton, Florida. The expedition disembarked at the mouth of Bayou Mulatto (Black Bayou), Escambia Bay, because the Clinton drew too much water to proceed further, and proceeded to Milton, nine miles away. On receipt of information of the Union expedition, Captain Goldsby's (CSA) Alabama Cavalry and a new militia infantry company, succeeded in sending the stores at Milton by seven wagons toward Pollard, Alabama. A brief skirmish ensued at Milton, before the Confederate units withdrew. Losses: Confederate: 7 prisoners, 3 being "colored men, mounted and armed." The expedition returned to Fort Barrancas because the Clinton could not pass the mouth of the Bayou Mulatto, and the chance for surprise was lost, General Asboth requested the steamers Planter and Matamoras be ordered to Pensacola, Florida.
- (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 442-443)

Northern Democratic Party nominate Major General George B. McClellan, USA, as its candidate for the 1864 U.S. presidential election.

## SEPTEMBER

- 2 Florida Governor John Milton issued General Orders No. 14 dealing with deserters, runaway slaves, persons harboring deserters, etc. See Appendix for full text.
- (WOR: Ser I, Vol 53, pg 373-374)
- Atlanta, Georgia captured by Major General William T. Sherman, USA. Major General John B. Hood, CSA, withdrew west and north of Atlanta.
- 8 Brigadier General William Miller, CSA ordered to assume immediate command of the reserve forces of Florida. He was further instructed "to complete their organization and place them at once in service."
- (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 621)
- 9 The recent death of Brigadier General Daniel P. Woodbury, USA, commanding the District of Key West and Tortugas, mentioned in correspondence concerning a new type of small boat Woodbury

had ordered for operations in South Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 277)

- 16 Boat expedition from U.S.S. Ariel, Acting Master James J. Russell, captured over 4,000 pounds of cotton in the vicinity of Tampa Bay, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-112)
- 18-19 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding District of West Florida, with a detachment of 700 mounted men embarked on steamers and departed Fort Barrancas, Florida. On disembarking at Navy Cove, Live Oak Plantation, the expedition proceeded fifty miles to Rodgers' Gap, on the narrows of Santa Rosa Island, six miles west of East Pass, where it was supplied from the steamer Lizzie Davis.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 443)
- 20-23 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding a detachment of 700 men from Fort Barrancas departed Rodgers' Gap, marched into the interior of West Florida, and surprised and captured a small Confederate party at Euchee Anna Courthouse, Walton County, Florida. The Douglas' Ferry, on the Choctawhatchee River, with all smaller boats in the vicinity were destroyed.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 443)
- 23-26 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding a detachment of 700 men of the Second Maine Cavalry, First Florida Cavalry, and two companies mounted infantry from Eighty-sixth and Eighty-second Regiments U.S. Colored Infantry, from Fort Barrancas, departed Euchee Anna, Florida, proceeded to Huett's Bluff, Cerro Gordo, crossed the Choctawhatchee River (25th) and proceeded to Marianna [27th] via Campbellton. Skirmishes occurred along "the whole line of march, from the Choctawhatchee to the Chipola River and down to the head of the Choctawhatchee Bay."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 444)
- 24 Skirmish near Magnolia, Florida between twelve men of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, under the command of Captain Edwin B. Staples, USA, and a detachment of Captain John J. Dickison's Second Florida Cavalry, CSA. No casualties.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 37)
- 27 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding a detachment of 700 men of the Second Maine Cavalry, First Florida Cavalry, and two companies mounted infantry from Eighty-sixth and Eighty-second Regiments U.S. Colored Infantry, from Fort Barrancas, arrived at Marianna, Florida, in the afternoon. The first Union charge on the town, "with rebel cavalry [Colonel Alexander B. Montgomery, CSA,

commanding] in front formed in line of battle and the militia sharpshooters concentrated in the grave-yard, [Episcopal] church, and other buildings ... was repulsed." The second charge, led by General Asboth succeeded. Losses: Union: 39 killed and wounded, including General Asboth, who suffered a broken cheek bone and a fractured left arm in two places. Confederate: 81 captured, including Brigadier General William A. Anderson, of the militia, and Colonel Montgomery, CSA, commanding the District of West Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 444-445)

As a result of lawless conduct by the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteer Mounted Infantry under the command of Colonel Andrew L. Harris, USA, on the 17 August raid to Gainesville, Florida, Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, commanding the District of Florida, instructed Colonel William H. Noble, USA, commanding U.S. Forces south of St. Augustine, that "in marching through the country you will exercise the greatest vigilance in protecting its people from those bad soldiers who disgrace the arms of their country by pillaging. Immediate trial and execution of the offenders on the spot where the offense is committed will be resorted to if other means fail."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 304)

28-OCT 4 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding a detachment of 700 men of the Second Maine Cavalry, First Florida Cavalry, and two companies mounted infantry from Eighty-sixth and Eighty-second Regiments U.S. Colored Infantry, from Fort Barrancas, departed Marianna, Florida, via Vernon to Washington Point, at the head of the Choctawhatchee Bay, where he embarked with wounded and prisoners on the steamer *Lissie Davis* for Fort Barrancas. The remainder of the detachment, under the command of Colonel Ladislav L. Zulavsky, USA, moved down the peninsula and Santa Rosa Island to Fort Pickens, arriving on October 4th.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 444-445)

28 Lieutenant General William J. Hardee, CSA, ordered to assume command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, relieving Major General Samuel Jones, CSA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 635)

29 Brigadier General William Miller, CSA, in addition to his other duties as commander of Reserve forces in Florida, was ordered to assume the command of the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General John K. Jackson, CSA, who was to report to Charleston, South Carolina.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 636)

29-30 Union reconnaissance expedition under command of Colonel William H. Noble, USA, departed Jacksonville, and from Magnolia, Florida, for Enterprise, Volusia County, Florida.

OCTOBER

- 4-8 Union reconnaissance expedition under command of Colonel William H. Noble, USA, arrived Enterprise, Volusia County, Florida, captured twenty-nine civilians and Confederate soldiers, horses and mules, then returned to Jacksonville and Magnolia.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 38)
- 5-6 Boat expedition commanded by Acting Ensign Henry Easton, U.S.S. *Restless*, destroyed large salt works on St. Andrews Bay, Florida, along with 150 buildings used to house the compound and its employees.  
(CWNC: pg IV-118)
- 5 Lieutenant General William J. Hardee, CSA, assumed command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, relieving Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, who was assigned to command the District of South Carolina.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 3; Part II, pg 637)
- 7 Confederate cruiser C.S.S. *Florida*, Lieutenant Charles M. Morris, CSN, captured by U.S.S. *Wachusett*, Commander Napoleon Collins, USN, at Bahia, Brazil.
- 11-15 Detachments of Union troops stationed in Jacksonville, Florida, sent up the St. Johns River to Orange Mills to secure oranges. Over 300 barrels were obtained.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 38)
- 12 Rear Admiral Cornelius K. Stribling, USN, relieved Captain Theodorus Greene, USN, as commander of the East Gulf Blockading Squadron.  
(CWNC: pg IV-121)
- 17-18 Lieutenant Colonel William W. Marple, USA, commanding Union forces at Magnolia, Florida made a raid into the country near Cedar Creek, secured and drove into Magnolia 150 head of cattle.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 38)
- 17 Meeting of Southern state governors protested against suspension of habeas corpus and other Confederate government policies.
- 18 Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, Second Maine Cavalry, commanding a detachment of the Nineteenth Iowa [200 men] and a section of the First Florida Battery, embarked on the steamer *Planter*, departed Pensacola, for Blackwater Bay after logs. Late in the day the expedition, at Battledonge,

9 miles from Milton, Florida was attacked by a large Confederate force. Colonel Spurling withdrew to the steamer after a two hour skirmish. Losses: Union: 1 killed, 2 wounded. Confederates: 4 killed.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 38, 445-446)

- 19 Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, commanding a detachment of 125 men from Fort Barrancas, embarked on the steamer **Planter**, went into Escambia Bay, and brought away 15,000 new brick and many doors and window sash.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 446)

Union victory at Cedar Creek, Virginia, ended Confederate threat in Shenandoah Valley. Sheridan (U) v. Early (C).

- 19-20 Boat expedition under Acting Master George E. Hill, U.S.S. **Stars and Stripes**, ascended the Ochlockonee River in Western Florida and destroyed an extensive Confederate fishery on Marsh's Island, capturing a detachment of soldiers assigned to guard the works.

(CWNC: pg IV-122)

- 21 U.S.S. **Sea Bird**, Ensign Ezra L. Robbins, captured blockade running British schooner **Lucy** off Anclote Keys, Florida, with assorted cargo.

(CWNC: pg IV-122)

Skirmish at Bryant's Plantation, Florida. No circumstantial reports on file in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 3)

- 24 U.S.S. **Nita**, Acting Lieutenant Robert B. Smith, captured schooner **Unknown** off Clearwater Harbor, Florida, after her crew had escaped.

(CWNC: pg IV-123)

U.S.S. **Rosalie**, Acting Ensign Henry W. Wells, captured an unidentified blockade running sloop off Little Marco, Florida, with cargo of salt and shoes.

(CWNC: pg IV-123)

Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding Companies C and H, Second Florida Cavalry, and Company H, Fifth Florida Battalion Cavalry, with one piece of artillery, departed Camp Miller, near Waldo, Florida, and attacked a detachment of two companies of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry [55 men], commanded by Lieutenant Colonel William W. Marple, USA, at Gum Creek, near Black Creek [about six miles from Magnolia], returning to their post at Magnolia, from a raid to the Middleburg area where they burned several buildings. Losses:

Union: 10 killed, 23 prisoners [8 wounded]. Confederate: none.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 38, 447)

- 25 Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, commanding an expedition of 700 men from the Second Maine Cavalry, mounted, First Florida Cavalry, dismounted, Nineteenth Iowa, Twenty-fifth, Eighty-second and Eighty-sixth U.S. Colored Infantry, and Company M, Second Maine Cavalry, dismounted, with two howitzers embarked on steamer transports *Planter* and *Lizzie Davis*, up the Blackwater and Escambia Bays. Colonel Spurling sent Captain Rollins A. Stearns, USA, with 200 infantry, on the *Lizzie Davis*, up the Blackwater River to land below Pierce's Mill, thirteen miles from Milton, Florida, "to raft logs ... and by all his actions endeavor to draw the enemy upon the narrow point of land ... formed by Escambia Bay on the west and East Bay and Blackwater River on the east." [Captain Stearns went too far.] Colonel Spurling proceeded with the transport *Planter* up Escambia Bay, and disembarked Major Lewis P. Mudgett, USA, with 300 infantry, at a point on the east side of Escambia Bay, opposite Pierce's Mill, with orders "to march to the head of the bayou and remain there till [heard] cannonading ... when he would deploy his force across to Pierce's Mill." Colonel Spurling with 200 infantry remained on the *Planter*.
- (WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 448-449)

- 26-28 Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, commanding 200 infantry embarked on the steamer *Planter*, having the day before ordered two detachments [Captain Stearns and Major Mudgett, USA, commanding] to land up the Blackwater River, proceeded up East Bay or Blackwater River to the disembarkation point of Captain Stearns [who had gone too far up river], disembarked the 200 infantry, Captain John M. Lincoln, USA, commanding, and ordered them to march to Milton, Florida. Colonel Spurling landed with the cavalry at Pierce's Mill, and moved toward Milton. On leaving the landing Captain Lincoln's detachment was attacked by a detachment of the Confederate Eighth Mississippi Cavalry. When Colonel Spurling arrived "the firing was quite rapid, and a brisk skirmish was going on." The Confederates withdrew to Milton. Colonel Spurling pursued them through Milton and eight miles down the road to Pollard, Alabama. Losses: Union: no casualties. Confederate: 9 prisoners, many wounded. At Bagdad, less than two miles from Milton 85,000 feet of lumber was seized. On the 27th the steamer *Planter* moved up the river to Milton and according to Colonel Spurling "exploding, if not the torpedoes, the idea and belief that they are planted in the river to obstruct its passage by boats." After destroying "200 bushels of corn and mean and considerable ham and beef ... ordnance, accouterments, and horse equipments" the expedition departed, and returned to Fort Barrancas on the



28th.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 449-450)

- 25-30 Lieutenant James McC. Baker, CSN, authorized to proceed with his plan to capture Fort Pickens, Florida, departed Mobile with a number of sailors on steamer **Dick Keys** and rendezvoused with 100 soldiers from Major General Dabney Maury's, CSA, command, District of the Gulf, that night at Blakely, Alabama. As the group was preparing to get underway, Maury ordered a temporary delay because of information received which reported that Union forces had landed at the Pensacola Navy Yard near Fort Pickens. By the 30th this intelligence was demonstrated to be inaccurate, but Maury still was reluctant to go ahead with the operation. Concerned that the Union now had knowledge of the planned attempt, he suggested that the soldiers return to their companies to give the appearance of having had the expedition called off. At a future date they could be ordered back to Blakely suddenly, as Baker reported, "when the expedition might proceed, he thought, with more secrecy and certainty of success."  
(CWNC: pg IV-136)

- 31 Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, commanding the District of Florida, instructed "not to allow any more women or children to come within his lines from the rebels if he can avoid it ... and those who do get in must not be allowed to leave Florida under any circumstances without authority." Furthermore, since few Floridians responded to Union "calls for Florida troops as it was expected they would do" General Hatch was instructed "to discourage as much as possible all males from entering his lines unless they agreed at once to take the oath of allegiance and were willing to bear arms." The correspondence concluded that "the majority of the refugees in Florida have apparently done us more harm than good."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 319)

As a consequence of the defeat of Lieutenant Colonel William W. Marple, USA, commanding two companies Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, at Gum Creek near Black Creek, on the 24th, the post at Magnolia was ordered evacuated, and a new post established on the west side of the cut running from the St. Johns River to Fernandina. Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South further stated "Cavalry raids in Florida so far have resulted in no benefit to the Government. In fact, they have only resulted in furnishing the rebels with fire arms and horses, and encouraging the men to plunder and pillage and causing them to be demoralized and inefficient."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 320)

Report of troops for the Department of the South, Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding indicated 4,232 men

aggregate present and absent in the District of Florida. Also the organization of troops for the Department indicated the location of companies in the District. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 320-321)

Report of troops of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia,

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for October, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
District of Florida (General Hatch) .....	90	2,262	2,969	4,232	(a)	(a)

*Troops in the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, October 31, 1864.*

**DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.\***

Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch.

17th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Albert H. Wilcoxson.

75th Ohio, Col. Andrew L. Harris.

107th Ohio, Capt. Edward S. Meyer.

3d U.S. Colored Troops, Col. Benjamin C. Tilghman.

34th U.S. Colored Troops (eight companies), Lieut. Col. William W. Marple.

35th U.S. Colored Troops, Col. James C. Beecher.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Second Battalion, Capt. Charles E. Keith.

3d New York Light Artillery, Battery F. Lieut. Edgar H. Titus.

\* Or Fourth Separate Brigade.

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
Lieut. Gen. W.J. Hardee, C.S. Army, commanding, October 31, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
Miller's brigade .....	94	1,220	1,310	1,613	2,951	14

*Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieut. Gen. W.J. Hardee,  
C.S. Army, commanding, October 31, 1864.*

**MILITARY DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.**

Brig. Gen. William Miller.

5th Florida Battalion (four companies), Capt. W.H. Milton.  
 2d Florida Cavalry (nine companies), Capt. D.B. Maxwell.  
 Independent company cavalry, Capt. R.J. Chisholm.  
 29th Georgia Battalion (two companies), Capt. F.L. Pepper.  
 Reserve (Florida) battalion, Capt. Isaac B. Nichols.  
 Reserve battalion (five companies), Capt. W.W. Poe.  
 Artillery battalion, Capt. Henry F. Abell.  
 Detachment Florida Light Artillery, Lieut. T.J. Bruton.  
 Kilcrease (Florida) Light Artillery, Capt. F.L. Villepigue.  
 Siege artillery (one company), Capt. Charles G. Campbell.

and Florida, Lieutenant General William J. Hardee, CSA, commanding, indicated 2,951 men aggregate present and absent in Miller's brigade [District of Florida], and the organization of troops indicated the location of companies in the District. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 643-645)

**NOVEMBER**

- 5     **Brigadier General Eliakim P. Scammon, USA, assigned to command the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, who was ordered to command the Northern District within the Department of the South.**  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 323-324)
- Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, wrote Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, commanding the District of Florida, stated his reasons for making the change of command assignments and why the establishment of the Union post at Magnolia, Florida was a "positive weakness." See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part II, pg 324-325)
- 6     **Boats from U.S.S. Adela, Acting Lieutenant Louis N. Stodder, captured schooner Badger attempting to run the blockade out of St. Georges Sound, Florida, with cargo of cotton.**  
(CWNC: pg IV-132)
- 8     **President Abraham Lincoln re-elected.**
- 12    **A boat expedition from U.S.S. Hendrick Hudson, Acting Lieutenant Charles H. Rockwell, and U.S.S. Mita, Acting Lieutenant Robert B. Smith, attempted to destroy Confederate salt works on a reconnaissance near Tampa Bay, Florida, but the sailors were driven back to their boats by Confederate cavalry.**  
(CWNC: pg IV-133)
- 14    **Brigadier General Eliakim P. Scammon, USA, relieved Brigadier General John P. Hatch, USA, and assumed command of the District of Florida.**  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 35, Part I, pg 39)
- 15-16        **Major General William T. Sherman, USA, departed Atlanta, Georgia, on the "March to the Sea" to Savannah.**
- 16-17        **Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, commanding detachment of 450 men from the Second Maine Veteran and First Florida Cavalry, departed Fort Barrancas, Florida, and bivouacked eleven miles from Pensacola at a point on the railroad leading from Pensacola to Montgomery, Alabama. On the 17th the detachment resumed march, captured sixteen Confederate pickets in route, proceeded to Pine Barren Creek, and after a surprise attack on Captain Leigh's (CSA) company, Colonel Maury's Fifteenth Confederate Cavalry camped near the bridge, captured thirty-eight prisoners, all arms and equipment. After destroying the Pine Barren Bridge, the detachment returned to Fort Barrancas.**  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 44, pg 418-419)
- 24    **Lieutenant James McC. Baker's, CSN, preparations for the**

capture of Fort Pickens at Pensacola, Florida, terminated by Confederate Secretary of the Navy Stephen R. Mallory: "Major General Dabney H. Maury [CSA] having withdrawn his men from the enterprise to the command of which you were assigned, its prosecution became impracticable. I regret that circumstances beyond the control of the Department or yourself should have thus terminated an enterprise which seemed to promise good results." It was a bitter blow to the daring young Confederate naval officer who had first undertaken the scheme in April and had fought persuasively for months to bring it off.

(CWNC: pg IV-136)

- 30 Boat expedition under the command of Acting Master Charles H. Cadieu, U.S.S. *Midnight*, landed at St. Andrews Bay, Florida, destroyed a salt work and took prisoners.  
(CWNC: pg IV-138)

Union victory at Franklin, Tennessee. Thomas (U) v. Hood (C).

Report of the Department of the South, Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding, indicated 4,265 men aggregate present and absent in the District of Florida [now known as the Fourth Separate Brigade], and the organization of troops indicated the location of companies in the District. See Charts for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 44, pg 590-591)

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for November 30, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
District of Florida (Scammon) .....	93	2,571	3,285	4,265	—	—

*Organization of troops in the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, November 30, 1864.*

**DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.\***

Brig. Gen. Ellakim P. Scammon.

17th Connecticut, Col. William H. Noble.  
75th Ohio, Col. Andrew L. Harris.  
107th Ohio, Capt. Edward S. Meyer.  
3d U.S. Colored Troops, Col. Benjamin C. Tilghman.  
34th U.S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. William W. Marple.  
35th U.S. Colored Troops, Col. James C. Beecher.  
4th Massachusetts Cavalry, 2d Battalion, Capt. George R. Hurlbut.  
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery F, Lieut. Edgar H. Titus.

\* Or Fourth Separate Brigade.



*Abstract from return of the District of West Florida, Col. George D. Robinson, Ninety-seventh U.S. Colored Troops, commanding, for November 30, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and Absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Fort Pickens (Reisinger) .....	8	158	222	231	90	—
Fort Barrancas (Hitchcock) .....	12	252	334	388	32	—
Total .....	20	410	556	619	122	—

Report of the District of West Florida, Colonel George D. Robinson, USA, commanding, indicated Fort Pickens with 231 men, and Fort Barrancas with 388 men, aggregate present and absent. Footnote to the report indicated Colonel Robinson filed the report because Brevet Brigadier General Joseph Bailey, USA, was temporarily absent on a cavalry expedition. Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, not in command, due to wounds received at the Battle of Marianna. He resumed command on 15 February 1865. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 44, pg 592)

#### DECEMBER

- 3 Boat expedition from U.S.S. *Nita*, *Stars and Stripes*, *Hendrick Hudson*, *Ariel*, and *Two Sisters*, commanded by Acting Lieutenant Robert B. Smith, destroyed a large salt work at Rocky Point, Tampa Bay, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-139)
- 4 Boats from U.S.S. *Pursuit*, Acting Lieutenant George Taylor, captured *Peep O'Day* near Indian River, Florida, with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg IV-140)
- 6 U.S.S. *Sunflower*, Acting Master Charles Loring, III, seized blockade running sloop *Pickwick* off St. George's Sound, Florida.  
(CWNC: pg IV-143)
- 10 U.S.S. *O. H. Lee*, Acting Master Oliver Thacher, captured blockade running British schooner *Sort* off Anclote Keys, Florida, with cargo of cotton. (CWNC: pg IV-145) The *Sort* was also captured again on 28 February 1865.  
(CWNC: pg V-53)

- 13-19 Colonel George D. Robinson, USA, commanding the Ninety-seventh U.S. Colored Infantry [800 men], departed Fort Barrancas, Florida, and reached Pollard, Alabama on the 16th; destroyed the depot, public buildings, a large amount of public property, the railroad "for miles, including several bridges, one very important one over the Little Escambia River." On returning to Pensacola, the expedition was attacked by a detachment of Confederate cavalry commanded by Brigadier General John R. St. Liddell, CSA, "at all the streams from the Little Escambia to Pine Barren Creek." Losses: Union: 17 killed, 64 wounded, including Colonel Robinson.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 44, pg 449)
- 15-16 Confederate forces routed at Nashville, Tennessee.  
Thomas (U) v. Hood (C).
- 21 Savannah, Georgia, captured by Major General William T. Sherman, USA.
- 24 Colonel William H. Noble, USA, Seventeenth Connecticut, Captain Peter F. Young, USA, One hundred and seventh Ohio, and Lieutenant Marshall N. Rice, USA, Thirty-fifth U.S. Colored Troops, USA, en route from Jacksonville to St. Augustine, Florida, captured by three Confederate scouts.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 44, pg 824-825)
- 31 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, assigned to command the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General William Miller, CSA, who remained in command of Reserves in the State of Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 44, pg 1009)

Report of the Department of the South, Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding, indicated the District of Florida [Fourth Separate Brigade] with 4,195 men aggregate present and absent. The organization of troops indicated the location of companies in the District. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 44, pg 855-856)

*Abstract from return of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for December 31, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Fourth Separate Brigade (Scammon) .....	50	1,337	1,766	4,195	—	—

*Organization of troops in the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, December 31, 1864.*

**FOURTH SEPARATE BRIGADE.\***

Brig. Gen. Eliakim P. Scammon.

17th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Albert H. Wilcoxson.

75th Ohio, Col. Andrew L. Harris.

107th Ohio,† Capt. Edward S. Meyer.

3d U.S. Colored Troops, Col. Benjamin C. Tilghman.

34th U.S. Colored Troops,† Lieut. Col. William W. Marple.

35th U.S. Colored Troops,† Lieut. Col. Ammiel J. Willard.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry,† 2d Battalion, Capt. George R. Hurlbut.

3d New York Light Artillery, Battery F.† Capt. Samuel C. Day.

\*Or District of Florida.

† Constituted the Coast Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, on ???

*Abstract from return of the District of West Florida, Brig. Gen. Thomas J. McKean,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for December 31, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Fort Barrancas (Hitchcock) .....	13	266	331	386	32	—
Fort Pickens (Reisinger) .....	7	179	215	231	90	—
Total .....	20	445	546	617	122	—

Report for the District of West Florida, Brigadier General Thomas J. McKean, USA, commanding, indicated 386 men at Fort Barrancas and 231 men at Fort Pickens, aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text. Note: General McKean retained temporary command of the District until the return of Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, on 15 February 1865. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 44, pg 856)

**1865**

**JANUARY**

- 2 Brigadier General William Miller, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, reported "the possession of Savannah by the enemy separates our line of railroad in Florida from the other lines of the Confederacy. Besides the necessity of getting the supplies of sugar, molasses, pork, and beef out of the State, it may be desired to remove the iron now on these railroads for use in the central parts of the Confederacy. Of this iron there is over 25,000 tons in the State, besides about 18,000 tons on the Live Oak connection and the Savannah and Gulf road..." and suggested construction of a road twenty-two miles by Quincy to the Chattahoochee River, at Appalaga, Georgia, to remedy the circumstances.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 983)
- 6 Report of Confederate light artillery in the District of Florida within the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 992)

- 11 Brigadier General William Miller, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, reported the Live Oak railroad connection would be completed in twenty days "in order to save the iron and rolling-stock of the Savannah, Albany and Gulf road to the Confederacy... [However] the Live Oak road is too near the sea-board to be safe; and if the Florida roads are to be connected with this line a new road should be built from Monticello to Thomasville [Georgia]." [Also see 2 JAN] Tallahassee and Marianna, Florida reported fortified.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1005-1006)

Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, assigned to command of the District of Florida, relieving Brigadier General William Miller, CSA.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1073)

- 15 Union forces captured Fort Fisher, North Carolina. Porter (U).
- 16 Brigadier General Thomas J. McKean, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, at Fort Barrancas, reported Confederate strength in the District to be "about 9,000 at Pollard, Alabama and vicinity, divided between that place, Bluff Springs [Canoe Creek], the Escambia railroad bridge, and Canoe Station, Alabama."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 577)
- 17 Two armed boats from U.S.S. Honeysuckle, Acting Master James J. Russell, captured British schooner Augusta at the mouth of the Suwannee River as she attempted to run the blockade with cargo of pig lead, flour, gunny cloth and coffee.  
(CWNC: pg V-20)

Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, advised Brigadier General Eliakim P. Scammon, USA, commanding the District of Florida [Fourth Separate Brigade], that "it is a good time to get together all of your available men and advance into the country on a sort of Union march .... Stimulate the Union sentiment in the manner of General [William T.] Sherman at Savannah."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 78)

**Batteries of light artillery in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia,  
and Florida, January 6, 1865.**

Batteries.	Captains.	Armament.					
		Napoleons.	12-pound howitzers.	6-pound bronze.	10-pound Parrots.	3-inch rifles.	3 1/2-Blakely.
Kilcrease Light Artillery .....	F.L. Villepigue .....	—	2	2	—	—	—
Lafayette Light Artillery .....	J.T. Kanapaux .....	—	4	—	—	—	—
Leon Light Artillery .....	Robert H. Gamble .....	—	2	—	—	2	—
Marion Light Artillery .....	Edward L. Parker .....	4	—	—	—	—	—
Milton Light Artillery, Company A .....	Joseph L. Dunham .....	4	—	—	—	—	—
Milton Light Artillery, Company B .....	Henry F. Abell .....	2	2	—	—	—	—
Total guns .....		10	10	2	—	2	—



Report of guns of, or in position, Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

	Smooth-bore guns.											
	11-inch Dahlgren (barbette).	10-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch naval columbiad (barbette).	42-pounder barbette (center pivot).	32-pounder barbette.	24-pounder barbette.	24-pounder siege.	18-pounder siege.	12-pounder barbette.	12-pounder siege.	6-pounder field.
Batteries on the Appalachicola River.	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	—	—	—	—	—
Battery at Saint Mark's.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Rifled guns.											
	12.75-inch Blakely (front pivot).	10-inch columbiad (barbette).	8-inch columbiad (barbette).	7-inch Brooke.	6.40-inch Brooke.	42-pounder barbette (front pivot).	42-pounder barbette (center pivot).	32-pounder barbette.	24-pounder barbette.	24-pounder siege.	18-pounder barbette.	12-pounder barbette.
Battery at Saint Mark's.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—

Florida Governor John Milton wrote President Jefferson Davis, and suggested several measures. (1) Assignment of the southwest counties of Georgia and Alabama bordering on Florida to the Military District of Florida. (2) Retention of reserves and the detailed men in those counties in the district for military service therein. (3) Immediate removal of the iron from the Albany and Gulf Railroad. (4) Construction of a railroad from Thomasville to Albany, Georgia, and of a railroad from Quincy, Florida, to the Apalachicola River. Without such measures he suggested Florida "may fall to a comparatively small force."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1021)

- 19 Report of guns and their positions in the District of Florida within the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, indicated Confederate smooth-bore and rifled guns in batteries on the Apalachicola River, at St. Marks, Florida. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1025)

INSERT WOR: SER I, VOL 47, PART II, PG 1025

- 20 Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieutenant General William J. Hardee, CSA, commanding indicated in the District of Florida [Miller's brigade] 3,002 men aggregate present and absent. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1032)

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee commanding, for January 20, 1865.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
Miller's brigade .....	109	1,483	1,448	1,785	3,002	6

- 21 Brigadier General R. Saxton, USA, assigned in the Department of the South to "provide for the well being of the negroes, and their location upon the plantations, as 'inspector of settlements and plantations,'... with District commanders directed to afford the necessary military protection..." In the District of Florida, the area covered by this order was the settlements from St. Marys Sound, southward to Jupiter Inlet, including those on the St. Johns River. Additionally, Fernandina, Florida, and Hilton Head, South Carolina, were identified as "points at which negro settlers will have the opportunity of supplying their necessary wants and selling the products of their lands and labor..."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 108)
- 23 U.S.S. Fox, Acting Master Francis Burgess, seized British schooner Fannie McRae near the mouth of the Warrior River, Florida, where she was preparing to run the blockade.  
(CWNC: pg V-22)
- 26 Lieutenant Colonel Albert H. Wilcoxson, USA, commanding a detachment of forty men of the Seventy-fifth Ohio Volunteers, departed Jacksonville, Florida, to bring in a Union family and capture Confederate soldiers "lurking about the neighborhood of the house to which the party was sent." The detachment was attacked and forced to retreat by a detachment of Confederate cavalry.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 142, 165)

Major General Gordon Granger, USA, commanding the District of South Alabama [13th Army Corps] and West Florida, designated troops for the "minimum permanent garrison" in Pensacola - Fort Pickens, three companies Twenty-fifth U.S. Colored Infantry - Fort Barrancas, two companies Sixth Michigan Heavy Artillery - Redoubt, one company Sixth Michigan Heavy Artillery - for the garrison, guarding supplies, etc. at Barrancas, eight companies Twenty-fifth U.S. Colored Infantry and the dismounted men of the Second Maine and First Florida Cavalry. Also in the District at Fort Barrancas was the Ninety-seventh U.S. Colored Infantry, Eighty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, Eighty-sixth U.S. Colored Infantry, the Second Maine and First Florida Cavalry. Note: For purposes of the Mobile Alabama Campaign [17 March - May 4] the District of West Florida was initially placed under the command of General Granger, but due to confusion the District of South Alabama [13th Army Corps] and the District of West Florida were separated, with General Granger retaining command of the District of South Alabama, and Brigadier General Alexander, USA, in the District of West Florida. See 17 March 1865.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 594)

Brigadier General Christopher C. Andrews, USA, commanding the

Third Brigade, Reserve Corps, at Pensacola, in preparation for the Mobile, Alabama Campaign, arrived at Fort Barrancas, Florida, on board the U.S. steamer Warrior. Other U.S. transport steamers Corinthian, St. Marys and Swain also arrived and disembarked Union troops.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 599)

- 27 Brigadier General Eliakim P. Scammon, USA, commanding the District of Florida [Fourth Separate Brigade] requested two regiment of Union cavalry and one of infantry, with a light battery, for "with such a force I could ... clean this part of [East] Florida of all rebel forces immediately."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 142)

- 29 Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding the Department of the South, responded to the capture of Lieutenant Colonel Albert H. Wilcoxson, USA, [26 JAN] by instructing Brigadier General Eliakim P. Scammon, USA, commanding the District of Florida [Fourth Separate Brigade] not to send out any party of "less than 1,000 strong, except when scouts are sent to ascertain the position of the enemy."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 165)

- 30-31 Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, ordered to assume command of the Department of the South, and relieve Major General John G. Foster, USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 178-179)

- 31 U.S. Congress passed Thirteenth Amendment abolishing slavery.  
  
Report of the Department of the South, Major General John G. Foster, USA, commanding, indicated 3,999 men aggregate present and absent in the District of Florida [Fourth Separate Brigade]. See Chart for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 193)

*Abstract from returns of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. John G. Foster,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for January 31, 1865.*

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Fourth Separate Brigade (Scammon) .....	40	1,330	1,680	3,999	—	—

*Abstract from return of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, C.S. Army, commanding, for January 31, 1865.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
Miller's brigade .....	115	1,441	1,398	1,765	3,133	10

*Troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida,  
Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee. C.S. Army, commanding, January 31, 1865.*

**DETACHED COMMANDS.**

*Miller's Brigade*

**Brig. Gen. William Miller.**

2d Florida Cavalry (nine companies), Maj. Robert Harrison.  
5th Florida Battalion (eight companies), Col. George W. Scott.  
29th Georgia Battalion (detachment), \_\_\_\_\_.  
Georgia Reserves (battalion), \_\_\_\_\_.  
Georgia Reserves (seven companies), \_\_\_\_\_.  
Special Cavalry Battalion (two companies).  
Campbell's Siege Battery, Capt. Charles G. Campbell.  
Chisolm's Independent Cavalry Company, \_\_\_\_\_.  
Bruton's (Florida) Light Battery, \_\_\_\_\_.  
Kilcrease Light Artillery, Lieut. Patrick Houstoun.  
Milton Light Artillery, Company A, Capt. Joseph L. Dunham.

Report of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, Lieutenant General William J. Hardee, CSA, indicated in the district of Florida [Miller's Brigade] 3,133 men aggregate present and absent. The Troop Report indicated the location of companies in the District of Florida [Brigadier General William Miller's Brigade]. See Chart for full text. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1069, 1073)

Chart for Hardee 31 Jan 85

FEBRUARY



- 1 Major General William T. Sherman, USA, began his march north from Savannah, Georgia, through the Carolinas.
- 1-4 A boat expedition from U.S.S. *Midnight*, Acting Master John C. Wells, landed and destroyed salt works "of 13,615 [gallon] boiling capacity" at St. Andrews Bay, Florida. This expedition led by Wells was the finale in the Union Navy's effective restriction of the South's salt production industry. (CWNC: pg V-31)
- 1-2 Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding 120 men from Company H and B, Second Florida Cavalry Regiment, and Company H, Fifth Florida Battalion, departed Waldo, Florida. On the 2nd the detachment crossed the St. Johns River at Palatka, moved toward Picolata, then towards St. Augustine and Jacksonville, Florida, and where a skirmish ensued on the St. Johns River. Losses: Union 2 killed, 13 captured. Confederate: no reported casualties. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 1135; Vol 49, Part I, pg 1020)
- 2 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, arrived at Tallahassee, and assumed command of the District of Florida. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 1134)
- 3 U.S.S. *Matthew Vassar*, Acting Master George E. Hill, captured blockade running schooner *John Hale* off St. Marks, Florida, with cargo including lead, blankets, and rope. (CWNC: pg V-32)
- 4 Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, having recovered from his wounds incurred during the Battle of Marianna, on 27 September 1864, was ordered to proceed to Fort Barrancas, Florida and resume command of the District of West Florida, relieving Brigadier General Thomas J. McKean, USA, who was ordered to New Orleans. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 653)
- 5 U.S.S. *Hendrick Hudson*, Acting Lieutenant Charles H. Rockwell, reported locating the sunken wreck of U.S.S. *Anna*, Acting Ensign Henry W. Wells, south of Cape Roman, Florida. *Anna* had departed Key West on 30 December 1864 and had not been heard from since. Apparently, an accidental explosion had ripped the schooner apart. Rockwell found no survivors. (CWNC: pg V-33)
- 5-6 Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding a detachment of 120 men of Companies B and H, Second Florida Cavalry, and Company H, Fifth Florida Battalion, divided his command sending one to Pallicier Creek and took the other with him to Braddock's Farm near Welaka, Florida, where he attacked and captured a detachment of 52 men and officers of the Seventeenth

Connecticut Volunteers, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Albert H. Wilcoxson, USA, guarding a train of ten wagons laden with cotton. Captain Dickison returned to Waldo on the 6th. Losses: Union: 4 killed, 51 prisoners, including Colonel Wilcoxson [who died in hospital at Tallahassee].

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 1135; Part II, pg 392, 453: Vol 49, Part I, pg 1020; Part II, pg 1135)

- 6 Captain Charles A. Keith, USA, departed Jacksonville, Florida, with a detachment of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, to reconnoiter the east bank of the St. Johns River.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 315)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, appointed commander-in-chief of all Confederate armies.

- 8 Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, commanding 186 men of the Second Regiment Florida Cavalry, and 200 men of the Second Regiment U.S. Colored Infantry, under the command of Major Benjamin C. Lincoln, USA, departed Cedar Keys for expedition through Levy County to Levyville and Clay Landing, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 40-41)

- 9 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, thinking the expedition under Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, from Cedar Keys, intended to move by way of Newnansville to the railroad bridge over the Suwannee River, sent a party of the Reserves and Second Cavalry, to Newnansville, under the command of Brigadier General William H. Miller, CSA, and directed Captain John J. Dickinson, CSA, commanding the Second Florida Cavalry, to get in the rear of the Union forces. Six miles from Station 4, Major Weeks captured three Confederate cavalry pickets and proceeded to Levyville. Major Lincoln, USA, surprised a company of Confederate cavalry at Clay Landing, but they escaped across the river.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 41-42)

- 10-11 The rear guard of the Union expedition under the command of Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, on departing Levyville for Station Four attacked by detachments of Confederate cavalry.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 40-41; Part II, pg 1135)

General Robert E. Lee, CSA, assumed command of all Confederate armies.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 1)

Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, assumed command of the Department of the South, relieving Major General John G. Foster, USA, granted a leave of absence, on account of a disability from wounds.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 368-369)

12-13 Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, commanding 186 men of the Second Regiment Florida Cavalry having departed Levyville, arrived at Station Four, Florida, with 100 head cattle, captured wagons and five prisoners. On the 13th, the company was attacked by Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry, commanding 120 men of the South Florida Forces. After a four hour general engagement, Captain Dickison fell back due to lack of ammunition and knowledge that Union reinforcements were on the way from Cedar Keys, and regrouped at Yearty's. Major Weeks hastily withdrew to Cedar Keys leaving all captured cattle and wagons. Losses: Union: 5 killed, 19 wounded, 2 prisoners. Confederate: 5 wounded. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 40-43, 1020; Part II, pg 1135)

15 U.S.S. Merrimac, Acting Master William Earle, was abandoned in a sinking condition at sea off the coast of Florida in the Gulf Stream. The tiller had broken in a gale, the pumps could not keep the ship free of water, and two boilers had given out. Having fought for 24 hours to save his ship, Earle finally ordered her abandoned. The mail steamer Morning Star, which had been standing by the disabled gunboat for several hours, rescued the crew. (CWNC: pg V-39)

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, resumed command of the District of West Florida, relieving Brigadier General Thomas J. McKean, USA. who reported to New Orleans. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 724)

Major General Gordon Granger, USA, commanding the Districts of West Florida and South Alabama [13th Army Corps], ordered the construction of barracks outside the forts at Fort Pickens, for 200 men; Fort Barrancas, for 150 men; and Redoubt, for 50 men. Because of confusion between these two districts, they were later separated, see 17 March 1865. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 724)

16 Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, notified Confederate General commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, that he was authorized by Lieutenant General U. S. Grant, USA, "to exchange all Confederate officers and men now held as prisoners of war ... numbering about 500, mostly officers ... " The exchange would be rank for rank. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 452)

Skirmish near Cedar Keys, Florida. (WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 2)

17 U.S.S. Mahaska, Lieutenant Commander William Gibson, seized schooner Delia off Bayport, Florida, with cargo of pig lead and sabers.

(CWNC: pg V-42)

Columbia, South Carolina captured and burned. Confederates evacuated Charleston.

- 18 Charleston, South Carolina, surrendered.

Thirteenth Army Corps, under the command of Major General Gordon Granger, USA, within the Army of West Mississippi, under the command of Major General Edward R. S. Canby, USA, reorganized. Troops forming the corps in part at Forts Gaines and Morgan, Alabama, and at Fort Barrancas, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 116)

- 19 Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, commanding a small expedition departed Fort Barrancas for Milton, Florida, to ascertain movements of Confederate troops and to meet with Captain Joseph C. Keyser, CSA, to discuss the surrender of his command. On arrival Colonel Spurling learned Captain Keyser had been ordered with a large portion of his command to Pollard, Alabama. Colonel Spurling reported Milton could easily be taken, Confederate soldiers in the area were demoralized, and that there was "great preparations at St. Marks, Florida, to render that a secure port for blockade-runners."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 2)

- 20-21 Confederate cavalry of approximately 400 men with one piece of artillery, captured several Union pickets on the Fort Thompson Road, then demanded the surrender of Fort Myers, Florida. When Captain James Doyle, USA, One Hundred-tenth New York Volunteers, commanding the post, refused to surrender, the Confederate force attacked the post. At daylight on the 21st the Confederate cavalry withdrew towards Fort Thompson. On pursuit five Confederates were captured and one killed.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 53-54)

- 22 Lieutenant General Joseph E. Johnston, CSA, assigned to command of the Army of Tennessee and all Confederate troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 3; Part II, pg 1248)

Brigadier General John Newton, USA, commanding the District of Key West and Tortugas, planned with Rear Admiral Cornelius K. Stribling, USN, commanding the East Gulf Blockading Squadron, a joint Army-Navy expedition to land troops at either Tampa or Cedar Keys, Florida, in order to cut off Confederate forces sent to lower portion of the Florida Peninsula, or to proceed to the neighborhood of St. Marks for a raid or expedition.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 58)

- 22-25 Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, commanding an expedition of 300 men of the Second Maine Cavalry, embarked on the steamer *Matamoras*, departed Fort Barrancas, disembarked at Pierce's Mills, and marched toward Milton, Florida. At daylight on 23rd the Union force under the command of Captain Benjamin G. Merry, USA, surprised and captured the Confederate camp six miles north of Milton on the road to Pollard, Alabama. Losses: Union none. Confederate: 1 killed, 19 captured. On arrival Colonel Spurling ordered the steamer *Matamoras* up river to Milton, to embark captured horses, munitions, prisoners and Union troops and returned to Fort Barrancas.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 71-72)
- 23-25 Brigadier General John Newton, USA, commanding District of Key West and Tortugas, Florida, embarked with Companies A, B, and K, of the Second U.S. Colored Infantry, on the transport steamer *Honduras*, Acting Lieutenant Thomas R. Harris, departed Key West and arrived at Punta Rassa, Florida on the 24th, where the steamer *Magnolia* was found with the Ninety-ninth U.S. Colored Infantry embarked. Both steamers sailed for Cedar Keys at 3:00 PM on the 24th, and arrived at 6:00 PM on the 25th.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 58-59)
- 25 U.S.S. *Marigold*, Acting Master Courtland P. Williams, captured blockade running British schooner *Salvadora* with an assorted cargo in the Straits of Florida between Havana, Cuba, and Key West.  
(CWNC: pg V-49)
- Lieutenant General Joseph E. Johnston, CSA, assumed command of the Army of Tennessee and all Confederate troops in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 3)
- Major General Frederick Steele, USA, assigned to command of Union troops operating from Pensacola Bay, Florida, for the Mobile, Alabama Campaign.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 790)
- Major General Gordon Granger, USA, assumed command of the 13th Army Corps [District of South Alabama], within the Army and Military Division of West Mississippi, Major General E. R. S. Canby, USA, commanding. At this time for the Mobile Alabama Campaign, the District of West Florida was under the command of General Granger, but was separated from it on 17 March 1865.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 771)
- 26 Federal forces occupying Jacksonville, Florida, fired a 100 gun salute in honor of the capture of Charleston, South

Carolina.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)

- 27 U.S.S. *Proteus*, Commander R. W. Shufeldt, seized the steamer *Ruby*, purportedly en route from Havana to Belize, Honduras, but, according to some of the officers and passengers, actually bound for St. Marks, Florida. It appeared that part of her cargo had been thrown overboard during the chase; the remainder consisted of lead and sundries.  
(CWNC: pg V-49)

Brigadier General John Newton, USA, commanding the District of Key West and Tortugas, but now at Cedar Keys, Florida, commanding an expedition of Companies A, B, and K, of the Second U.S. Colored Infantry, embarked on steamer transport *Honduras*, met with Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, commanding the post, ordered Companies C, D, and E, Second Florida Cavalry [dismounted], and Companies E, G, and H, Second U.S. Colored Infantry, embarked on the transport steamer *Magnolia*, transferred his headquarters to the steamer *Alliance*, which had arrived from Key West, and departed for St. Marks, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 59)

- 28 Brigadier General John Newton, USA, commanding the District of Key West and Tortugas, and in command of an expedition embarked on transport steamers *Alliance*, *Honduras* and *Magnolia* arrived off Ochlockonee buoy, in dense fog, near St. Marks Bar, Florida, thirteen miles from land, where the expedition was to rendezvous with a Union naval force. [See 22 FEBRUARY]  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 59)

Armed boats under Acting Ensign Charles N. Hall from U.S.S. *Honeysuckle* forced the blockade running British schooner *Sort* aground on a reef near the mouth of Crystal River, Florida, where she was abandoned. *Sort* was the same schooner captured on 10 December 1864 by U.S.S. *O. H. Lee*.

(CWNC: pg V-53)

Major General Frederick Steele, USA, arrived at Pensacola, Florida, to assume command of the Union Forces in Pensacola Bay, and complete the organization and preparation of his column for the Mobile, Alabama Campaign.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 790)

Report of the Department of the South, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding, indicated 3,993 men aggregate present and absent in the District of Florida [Fourth Separate Brigade]. The Organization of Troops indicated the location of companies in the District. See Chart for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 626-627)

*Abstract from returns of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for February 28, 1865.*

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Fourth Separate Brigade (Scammon) .....	47	1,336	1,652	3,993	—	—

*Organization of troops in the Department of the South, commanded by  
Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U.S. Army, February 28, 1865.*

**FOURTH SEPARATE BRIGADE.\***

Brig. Gen. Eliakim P. Scammon.

17th Connecticut, Maj. Henry Allen.  
75th Ohio (two companies), Capt. William J. Rannels.  
107th Ohio, Capt. Philip Setzler.  
3d U.S. Colored Troops, Col. Benjamin C. Tilghman.  
34th U.S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. William W. Marple.  
35th U.S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Ammiel J. Willard.  
4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Second Battalion, Capt. George R. Hurlbut.  
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery F, Capt. Samuel C. Day.

\* Or District of Florida.

## **MARCH**

- 1 Major General Frederick Steele, USA, assumed command of all U.S. Forces operating from Pensacola Bay for the Mobile Campaign, within the overall command of Major General Edward R. S. Canby, USA, commanding the Military Division of West Mississippi and all Union Forces against Mobile, Alabama.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 105, 279)
- 1-2 U.S. steamers Mahaska, Honduras, Magnolia, Stars and Stripes, Spirea, Fort Henry; schooners O. H. Lee, Matthew Vassar, and Two Sisters assembled together in heavy fog at Ochlockonee buoy, near St. Marks Bar, thirteen miles from land, and finalized the joint Army-Navy operations against St. Marks, Florida, and vicinity. Lieutenant Commander William Gibson, USN, commanded the naval forces, and Brigadier General John Newton, USA, was in command of the 900 army troops. See Appendix for full text of plans.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 59)
- 2 In an effort to avoid capture by an armed boat from U.S.S. Fox, the crew of the blockade runner Rob Roy, from Belize, Honduras, ran her ashore and fired her in Deadman's Bay, Florida. The cargo removed from the blazing wreck consisted of cavalry sabers and farming and mechanical implements.  
(CWNC: pg V-55)

Captain William Strickland, USA, and six men from the joint Army-Navy expedition under the command of Brigadier General John Newton, USA, from Key West to St. Marks and vicinity, landed at the mouth of the Aucilla River, with orders to burn



the trestle on the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad at the head of the river. Later Confederate reports indicated the damage was slight, "not enough to stop the trains." Another party under the leadership of Mr. Green, a civilian, landed near Shell Point, with orders to burn the Ochlockonee Railroad Bridge.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 63, 70)

Major General Frederick Steele, USA, commanding Union Forces in Pensacola Bay, Florida, instructed to send Brigadier General Christopher C. Andrews, USA, with two brigades of the Thirteenth Army Corps to occupy, hold and repair the wharfs at Pensacola, Florida. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 819-820)

- 3 U.S.S. *Honeysuckle*, Acting Master James J. Russell, sighted the sloop *Phantom* as she attempted to enter the Suwannee River on the West Coast of Florida. An armed boat from the ship overhauled and captured the blockade runner and her cargo of bar iron and liquors.  
(CWNC: pg V-56)

Fog having lifted, the joint Army-Navy expedition [see 22 and 28 FEBRUARY and 1-2 MARCH] under the commands of Brigadier General John Newton, USA, and Lieutenant Commander William Gibson, USN, departed St. Marks Bar, thirteen miles from land, sailed until dark to avoid detection by Confederate lookouts, returned but was unable to cross the Bar, and anchored until the morning, due to a heavy gale. Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, commanding sixty men of the Second Florida Cavalry [dismounted], and thirty seamen under Acting Ensign John F. Whitman, disembarked in boats from the steamer *Magnolia*, landed on Light House Island, surprised but did not succeed in capturing Confederate pickets at the bridge over the East River.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 59)

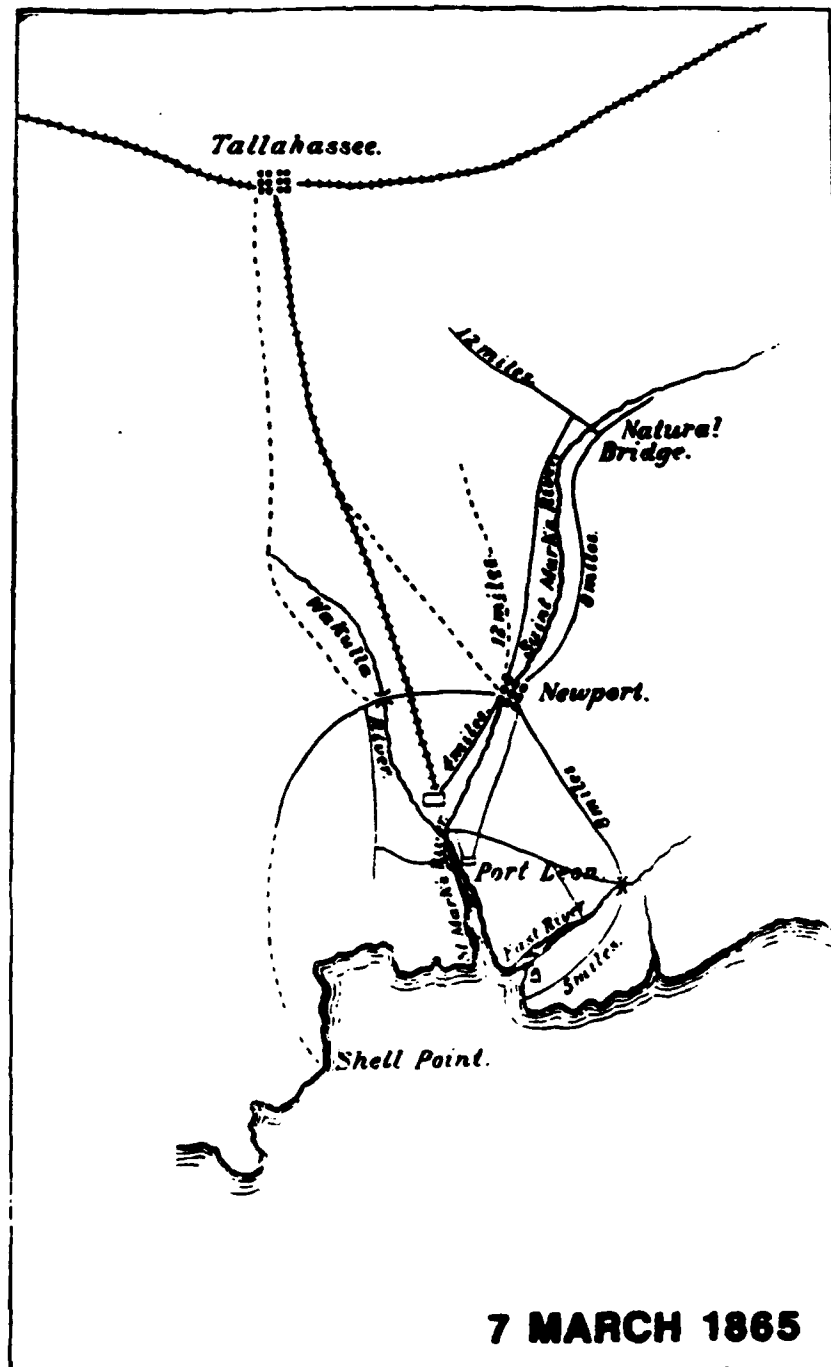
- 4 Joint Army-Navy expedition under the commands of Brigadier General John Newton, USA, and Lieutenant Commander William Gibson, USN, anchored off St. Marks Bar, got underway for the lighthouse. U.S. steamers *Honduras* and *Spirea* ran aground. Major Edmund C. Weeks, USA, commanding a party which had landed on the previous night was attacked at sunrise, and withdrew to the light-house, skirmishing with a part of the Fifth Battalion Florida Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel George W. Scott, CSA, the entire route. U.S. steamers *Hibiscus*, *Proteus*, and *Iuka* arrived. Union troops finally disembarked from the grounded steamers, moved forward two miles, camped, and awaited landing of the artillery.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 59-60, 70; Part II, pg 1135)  
Report with twelve statements of deserters from the Confederate Army and refugees at Fort Barrancas, giving

conditions in West and Middle Florida, sent to Military Division of West Mississippi. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 830-834)

Brigadier General Christopher C. Andrews, USA, assumed command of the Second Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, at Fort Barrancas, Florida, in preparation for the Mobile, Alabama Campaign.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 835)

Colonel William T. Spicely, USA, at Fort Barrancas, assumed command of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, in preparation for the Mobile, Alabama Campaign.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 835)

- 5 Brigadier General John Newton, USA, commanding joint Army-Navy expedition at St. Marks, Florida, with artillery unloaded from the transport steamers, advanced toward the East River Bridge, found the planks removed and a detachment of the Fifth Battalion Florida Cavalry, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel George W. Scott, CSA, with artillery positioned on the opposite shore. Major Benjamin C. Lincoln, USA, commanding Companies G and H, Second U.S. Colored Infantry charged over open ground to the bridge, filed over the bridge spans, captured the artillery and turned it on the retreating Confederate troops. Once the bridge was repaired, the expedition proceeded to the Newport Bridge. On arrival the expedition found one bay of the bridge removed and an iron factory used to cast shot and shell, a saw and a grist mill (Dan Ladd's), as well as other property on fire, and Confederate riflemen firing from the opposite bank. That evening Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the District of Florida arrived Newport from Tallahassee, and found Brigadier General William Miller, CSA, with a company of cadets from the West Florida Seminary at Tallahassee and a small body of militia. Major Weeks, USA, with a battalion of the Second Florida Cavalry remained at the Newport Bridge, under constant fire from Confederate artillery and cavalry, to guard against a Confederate crossing and attack from the rear. Not able to cross the St. Marks River, General Newton moved eight miles to Natural Bridge. Anticipating this movement, General Miller, CSA, sent Colonel Scott, with a small body of the Fifth Battalion Florida Cavalry to check the crossing, and General Jones, CSA, commanding, ordered all Confederate Reserves, local militia and two sections of artillery to Natural Bridge. See Map Insert  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 60, 68; Part II, pg 1135)



**INSERT MAP OF ST MARKS, NEWPORT AND NATURAL BRIDGE  
WOR, SER I, VOL 49, PART I, PG 68**

Third Brigade, of the Second Division, Thirteenth U. S. Army Corps, Brigadier General Christopher C. Andrews, USA, commanding, organized at Fort Barrancas, Florida in preparation for the Mobile Campaign, with Colonel Frederick W. Moore, USA, in command of the Third Brigade.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 122, 844)

- 6 Brigadier General John Newton, USA, commanding a joint Army-Navy expedition [900 men] to St. Marks and vicinity, Florida, encamped at Natural Bridge after an eight mile march from Newport, with about 500 men, ordered Major Benjamin C. Lincoln, USA, commanding Companies B and G of the Second U.S. Colored Infantry to attack Confederate advance posts on the south side of the natural land-bridge, which crossed the St. Marks River. Confederate reserves, a few cavalry, and a section of artillery arrived at Natural Bridge a little before 4:00 AM. Major Lincoln succeeded in driving the Confederate pickets across the bridge, but was stopped by a large force (about 2,000 men) entrenched on the opposite side, commanded by Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, and Brigadier General William Miller, CSA. Colonel Benjamin R. Townsend, USA,

commanding Companies A, B, and H, Second U.S. Colored Infantry, attacked the Confederate right flank, and Major Lincoln with Companies E, G, and K, Second U.S. Colored Infantry, with support from the Ninety-ninth U.S. Colored, made a direct assault, but were both stopped. Because of the unassailable Confederate position due to the "sloughs, ponds, marshes, and thickets" and continuous cross fire by the Confederates, General Newton withdrew his forces to an open pine barrens about 300 yards from the natural land-bridge. Early in the afternoon, a part of the Second Florida Cavalry, under the command of Colonel Caraway Smith, CSA, arrived and with the support of Confederate artillery [four pieces], Confederate troops moved from the entrenchments, made two attacks on the regrouped Union forces, but were stopped by Federal infantry supported by artillery. The Union expedition continued to withdraw toward the lighthouse, under constant harassment by Confederate cavalry and riflemen. General Newton with his command arrived at the light-house at 4:00 AM on the 7th. The Navy was unable to assist the land operation due to shallow waters of the St. Marks River and Bar. The Union troops embarked on the steamers under the command of Commander Robert W. Shufeldt, USN, he having relieved Lieutenant Commander William Gibson while General Newton was ashore, and returned to the posts of Cedar Keys, Punta Rassa, and Key West. The U.S. steamer *Mahaska*, Lieutenant Commander William Gibson, USN, remained blockading the mouth of St. Marks River. Losses: Union: 21 killed, 89 wounded, 38 missing. See Insert report of casualties. Confederate: 3 killed, 22 wounded. The "Floridian and Journal" newspaper reported Confederate forces at the Battle of Natural Bridge to be: Kilcrease Artillery; Dunham's Battery; cadets from the West Florida Seminary at Tallahassee; Second Florida Cavalry; First Florida Militia; Barwick's Company Reserves; Hodges' Company Reserves; Company A, Milton Light Artillery; Companies A, B, and F, Reserves. (CWNC: V-56: WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 58, 60-63, 65, 67; Part II, pg 1135-1136)

INSERT UNION CASUALTIES FROM NATURAL BRIDGE  
WOR SER I, VOL 49, PART I, PG 67

*Reports of U.S. casualties in action, March 6, 1865, at Natural Bridge, Fla.*

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.	Remarks.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
Staff .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	Lieut. E. Carrington, 143d New York Volunteers, Killed. Capt. E.B. Tracy, 2d U.S. Colored Infantry, acting assistant adjutant-general, wounded severely.
2d Florida Cavalry .....	—	1	—	2	—	13	16	
2d U.S. Colored Infantry .....	—	10	6	41	—	1	58	
99th U.S. Colored Infantry ...	1	8	2	37	1	23	72	Maj. B.C. Lincoln and Second Lieut. T.H. Murphy, 2d U.S. Colored Infantry, have since died of their wounds.
Total .....	2	19	9	80	1	37	148	

Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, ordered to embark on the steamer *Matamoras*, with 200 dismounted and 30 mounted men from the Second Maine Cavalry, well armed and with one day's cooked rations, and depart Fort Barrancas, Florida. Note: this order was changed to read the 9th, but it did not take place until the 19th.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 843, 866)

- 7-12      A Union scouting party of thirty men of the Thirty-fourth U.S. Colored Troops, commanded by Sergeant Major Henry James, USA, Third U.S. Colored Troops, departed Jacksonville, reconnoitered Marion County, Florida, destroyed a sugar mill and distillery, together with the stock of sugar and liquor, and burned the bridge over the Oklawaha River. The party was attacked by and defeated a detachment of fifty Confederate cavalry. The expedition returned to Jacksonville via St. Augustine. Losses: Union 2 killed, 4 wounded. Confederate: 30 wounded. Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding the Department of the South, reported "this expedition, planned and executed by colored men under the command of a colored non-commissioned officer, reflects great credit upon the brave participants and their leader."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166; Part II, pg 190)

- 9      Brigadier General Christopher C. Andrews, USA, commanding the Second Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, at Fort Barrancas, Florida, in preparation for the Mobile, Alabama Campaign, issued a statement of encouragement and praise to his troops. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 879)

Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, reported the February 13 action at Cedar Keys, and the March 6 engagement at Natural Bridge/St. Marks, Florida, to Georgia Governor Joseph E. Brown, and inquired "what aid [he] may look for in an emergency from South Georgia?" He also issued Special Orders No. 49 congratulating the militia forces of Florida for the "promptness and dispatch with which they responded to the call of the Governor [John Milton] to turn out and repel the invading foe." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 1043-1044; pg 62-63)

- 10      Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin C. Tilghman, USA, appointed post commander at Jacksonville, and Major Henry Allen, USA, as post commander at St. Augustine, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 776)

Brigadier General Christopher C. Andrews, USA, commanding the Second Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, at Fort Barrancas, Florida, in preparation for the Mobile Campaign issued General Orders No. 4, on "making successful marches in enemy country." See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 887-888)

- 11-20 Brigadier General Christopher C. Andrews, USA, with the Second and Third Brigades of the Second Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, departed Fort Barrancas, marched to Pensacola, Florida, repaired the central wharf, which along with other wharfs had been nearly destroyed by Confederate forces, constructed depots for supplies and departed on the 20th in support of the Mobile Campaign.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 121, 279, 886)

- 13 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, reported Union armies had been "quite active in this State recently..." And in a follow-up report he advised his command "should be extended to embrace Southern Georgia... and that all of Georgia south of the Altamaha, the Ocmulgee Rivers, and Muscogee and South Western Railroad, and the counties of Alabama adjacent to the Chattahoochee and south of Columbus should be under one commander." He strongly recommended promoting Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry, to Colonel.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1389-1391)

C.S. Congress authorized the recruitment of slaves into the Confederate Army.

- 15 Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin C. Tilghman, USA, ordered to command the District of Florida, during the temporary absence of Brigadier General Eliakim P. Scammon, USA.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 857)

Major General Gordon Granger, USA, commanding the Thirteenth Army Corps, in preparation for the Mobile Campaign, issued General Field Orders No. 1, which gave instructions to engineers attached to division or detached brigades. See Appendix for full text.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 924-927)

- 16 U.S.S. Pursuit, Acting Lieutenant William R. Browne, captured British schooner Mary attempting to run the blockade into Indian River on the East Coast of Florida. Her cargo consisted of shoes, percussion caps, and rum.

(CWNC: pg V-64)

- 17 Picolata, Florida abandoned by Union forces. Garrison transferred to St. Augustine, heavy ordnance to Jacksonville.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)



During the Mobile, Alabama Campaign, or "until further orders," the Districts of South Alabama [13th Army Corps] and West Florida were instructed to be "distinct," and the commanders of each to report directly to Major General Edward R. S. Canby, USA, commanding the Army and Military Divisions of West Mississippi. Major General Gordon Granger, USA, commanding the 13th Army Corps, and Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 14)

All Union cavalry within the District of West Florida, ordered to constitute part of the force operating from Pensacola Bay, under the command of Major General Frederick Steele, USA.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 17)

- 18 Colonel William W. Marple, USA, commanding 500 men of the Thirty-fourth U.S. Colored Troops, one company Third U.S. Colored Troops, and three field pieces, marched inland from Jacksonville, Florida, encamped four miles from the junction of Cedar Creek with the St. Johns River, to cover operations of a crew of wreckers under the command of Captain Samuel A. Bennett, USA, on sunken steamer *St. Marys*.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)

Lieutenant Commander William Gibson, USN, commanding the U.S.S. *Mahaska*, blockading the mouth of the St. Marks River, reported receipt of communication under a flag of truce from Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, and Confederate forces engaged at the Battle of Natural Bridge. [See 6 & 7 MARCH]

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 65)

- 19 Skirmishes at Welaka and Saunders, Florida, no report on file in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 1)

Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, commanding 847 men of the Special Cavalry Expedition [Second Maine Cavalry, Second Illinois and First Florida Cavalry], in conjunction with the Mobile Campaign, embarked on the steamer *Matamoras* and departed Pensacola Bay and disembarked at Creigler's Mill, on the east side of the Blackwater River, four miles below Milton, Florida. On disembarking, Captain Elijah D. Johnson, USA, commanding two companies of the First Florida Cavalry, was sent to Milton, where he attacked and forced Confederate pickets to withdraw to Pollard, Alabama, and held the town.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 309)

Major General Frederick Steele, USA, commanding the U.S. Forces operating from Pensacola, Florida, issued General Orders No. 3, dealing with the "order of march" during the

Mobile Campaign. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 32-33)

- MID Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, commanding Second Florida Cavalry, led a raiding party to within a mile of St. Augustine, Florida, and "recaptured twenty-four negroes and other stolen property."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1449)
- 20 Major General Frederick Steele, USA, commanding U.S. Forces operating from Pensacola Bay, Florida, in the Mobile, Alabama Campaign, requested Lieutenant Commander William A. Gibson, USN, U.S.S. Mahaska, commanding the blockading squadron in Pensacola Bay, to protect the wharfs until troops could arrive to garrison Pensacola, then departed Pensacola, with a force of 12,004 men, toward Pollard, Alabama, to threaten Montgomery and Selma. Organization of troops indicated the column from Pensacola Bay, and the Return of Casualties. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 93, 108-109, 279-280; Part II, pg 41)

INSERT ORGANIZATION OF TROOPS WOR: SER I,  
VOL 49, PART I, PG 108-109, AND CASUALTIES

*Organization of the Union Forces, commanded by Maj. Gen. Edward R.S. Canby,  
operating against Mobile, Ala., March 17-April 12, 1865.*

**COLUMN FROM PENSACOLA BAY, FLA.**

Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele.

**FIRST DIVISION.**

Brig. Gen. John P. Hawkins.

*First Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. William A. Pile.

73d U.S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Henry C. Merriam.

82d U.S. Colored Troops, Col. Ladislas L. Zulavsky.

86th U.S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. George E. Yarrington.

*Second Brigade.*

Col. Hiram Scofield.

47th U.S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Ferdinand E. Peebles.

50th U.S. Colored Troops, Col. Charles A. Gilchrist.

51st U.S. Colored Troops, Col. A. Watson Webber.

*Third Brigade.*

Col. Charles W. Drew.

48th U.S. Colored Troops, Col. Frederick M. Crandal.

68th U.S. Colored Troops:

Col. J. Blackburn Jones.

Lieut. Col. Daniel Denamore.

76th U.S. Colored Troops, Maj. William E. Nye.

**CAVALRY.**

**LUCAS' DIVISION**

Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Lucas.

*First Brigade.*

Col. Morgan H. Chrysler.

1st Louisiana, Lieut. Col. Algernon S. Badger.

31st Massachusetts (mounted infantry), Lieut. Col. Edward P. Nettleton.

2d New York Veteran:

Col. Morgan H. Chrysler.

Lieut. Col. Asa L. Gurney.

*Second Brigade.*

Lieut. Col. Andrew B. Spurling.

1st Florida, Capt. Francis Lyons.

2d Illinois, Maj. Franklin Moore.

2d Maine, Maj. Charles A. Miller.

*Artillery.*

Massachusetts Light, 2d Battery (B), Capt. William Marland.

**Return of casualties in the Union Forces operating against Mobile, Ala.,  
March 17-April 12, 1865.**

[Compiled from nominal list of casualties.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
<b>COLUMN FROM PENSACOLA BAY.</b>							
<b>Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele.</b>							
<b>FIRST DIVISION.</b>							
<b>Brig. Gen. John P. Hawkins.</b>							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
<b>Brig. Gen. William A. Pile.</b>							
73d U.S. Colored Troops .....	—	3	5	19	—	—	27
82d U.S. colored Troops .....	—	3	1	30	—	—	34
86th U.S. Colored Troops .....	1	3	2	37	—	—	43
<b>Total First Brigade .....</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>104</b>
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
<b>Col. Hiram Scofield.</b>							
47th U.S. Colored Troops .....	—	2	1	17	—	—	20
50th U.S. Colored Troops .....	1	5	1	18	—	—	25
51st U.S. Colored Troops .....	—	2	1	14	—	—	17
<b>Total Second Brigade .....</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>62</b>
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
<b>Col. Charles W. Drew.</b>							
48th U.S. Colored Troops .....	—	2	1	20	—	—	23
68th U.S. Colored Troops .....	3	9	7	81	—	—	100
76th U.S. Colored Troops .....	2	12	3	65	—	—	82
<b>Total Third Brigade .....</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Total First Division .....</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>371</b>

52 135 12

20 April 65

**Chart of Union Casualties Column from  
Pensacola mar-17- Apr 12, 1865**

- 21 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, reported Florida Governor John Milton approved of and strongly recommended Captain John J. Dickison, CSA, Second Florida Cavalry be promoted to Colonel, and be given command of all Confederate troops in East Florida. In a follow-up report General Jones requested funds to pay the troops in Florida, stating some had not been paid since August 1864, and others had never been paid.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part II, pg 1449-1450)

Lieutenant Colonel Andrew B. Spurling, USA, commanding 847 men of the Special Cavalry Expedition departed Creigler's Mill, on the Blackwater River, south of Milton, Florida, toward Andalusia, Alabama, part of the Mobile Campaign. Likewise, Captain Elijah D. Johnson, USA, with two companies of the First Florida Cavalry, departed Milton, Florida, to rejoin Colonel Spurling.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 309)

- 21-APRIL 3 Major General William T. Sherman, USA, completed his march through the Carolinas, and joined with Brigadier General John M. Schofield's, USA, forces in North Carolina.

- 25 Brigadier General Thomas J. Lucas, USA, commanding 1,766 men of the Separate Cavalry Brigade [in the Mobile, Alabama Campaign], attacked a detachment of 100 men from Brigadier General Jason H. Clanton's brigade of the Sixth and Eighth Alabama Cavalry, CSA, posted behind strong breast-works at Cotton Creek, Florida, and forced them to withdraw. General Lucas continued to Mitchell's Creek, Florida, eliminated minor resistance from a small Confederate detachment holding the crossing, and forced them to withdraw. General Lucas ordered Lieutenant Colonel Algernon S. Badger, USA, commanding First Louisiana Cavalry, with a battalion of the Second New York Cavalry, to pursue the Confederates. At Canoe Creek [or Bluff

Springs] Colonel Badger came on 600 men, dismounted and formed in line of battle, commanded by Brigadier General Clanton. He attacked and after a sharp skirmish the Confederate forces fell back to the Escambia River. Losses: Union: 3 killed, 3 wounded. Confederate: unknown killed, 129 prisoners including General Clanton who was wounded. Pursuit continued seven miles to the Escambia River, where General Lucas captured a portion of the withdrawing Confederate troops and a Confederate battery on the opposite side of the river which had opened fire on the Union forces.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part I, pg 280, 302-303, 308-309)

- 26 Calvin Livingstone, commanding a party of Union scouts engaged and captured five Confederate soldiers opposite Picolata, near Glen Cove Springs, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)

U.S. steamer *Matamoras*, loaded with five days' supplies for Major General Frederick Steele, USA, commanding the U.S. Forces near Pensacola Bay in the Mobile Campaign, returned to Pensacola, Florida, from the mouth of the Escambia River, having been unable to pass over the bar. After eight hours of sounding only three feet of water could be found, while the *Matamoras* drew four and a half feet. Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida recommended Milton, Florida as the "proper place to land the supplies, to be transported from there by wagons, under cavalry escort, on the Milton and Pollard [Alabama], road .. to General Steele's command.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 97)

- 28 Lieutenant General Joseph E. Johnston, CSA, commanding Confederate Army of Tennessee advised all Southern Governors "that many stragglers from the troops of your State belonging to this army are about their homes. I ask your aid to bring them back to the ranks."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part III, pg 707)

- 29 U.S.S. *Matamoras* reloaded with provisions for Major General Frederick Steele's army operating in South Alabama departed Pensacola and proceeded up the Escambia River to Pollard, Alabama, "provided with a pilot familiar with the navigation of the river."

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 119)

- 30 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, reported that Brigadier General Eliakim P. Scammons, USA, commanding U.S. forces at Jacksonville, had agreed "to receive and receipt [Union] prisoners of war paroled for exchange" and requested Captain Charles E. Dyke's, CSA, company Florida Light Artillery [Leon Artillery], stationed at Andersonville, Georgia, be sent to St. Marks, Florida.

(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 1175)

30-31 Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, USA, began the final assault in Virginia.

31 U.S.S. Iuka, Lieutenant William C. Rogers, captured blockade running British schooner Comus off the coast of Florida with cargo of cotton.  
(CWNC: pg V-73)

Steamer St. Marys raised by wrecking party under the command of Captain Samuel A. Bennett, USA.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)

#### APRIL

1 Florida Governor John Milton, committed suicide at "Sylvania," his home near Marianna, Florida. In his last message to the Legislature, he stated "death would be preferable to reunion."  
(Morris: The Florida Handbook, 23rd Biennial Edition, 1991-1992)

2 Petersburg, Virginia, captured by Union forces.

3 Richmond, Virginia, capital of the Confederacy, captured.

4 President Jefferson Davis, issued his last appeal to the people of the South.

7 Brigadier General Eliakim P. Scammon, USA, departed District of Florida, turning command temporarily over to Colonel Benjamin C. Tilghman, of the Third U.S. Colored Troops.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)

8 Abraham K. Allison, acting Governor of Florida issued a proclamation giving notice and direction that a general election would be held on Wednesday, 7 June 1865, for governor of Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part III, pg 498)

9 General Robert E. Lee, CSA, met Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, USA, at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, and officially surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia.

11 U.S.S. Sea Bird, Acting Master Ezra L. Robbins, seized sloops Florida and Annie with cargoes of cotton off Crystal River, Florida. Both sloops were subsequently destroyed.  
(CWNC: pg V-83)

Confederate forces evacuated Mobile, Alabama.



- 12 Union forces occupied Mobile, Alabama.
- 14 President Abraham Lincoln shot at Fords Theater, Washington, D.C.
- Major General Robert Anderson, USA, commander of the Union Army forces at Fort Sumter on 14 April 1861, raised above Sumter's ruins "the same United States flag which floated over the battlements of that fort during the rebel assault, and which was lowered and saluted by him and the small force of his command when the works were evacuated on the 14th of April 1861."  
(CWNC: pg V-87)
- 15 President Abraham Lincoln died in Washington, D. C.
- 16 Major General Edward O. C. Ord, USA, ordered to command the Department of the South, relieving Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, who was instructed to report to Washington, D. C.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part III, pg 231)
- 17 U.S. War Department ordered the "military lines of the U.S. be extended to include the States of Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, North Alabama, and Tennessee, and that all military restrictions upon internal trade within said lines are annulled, except in arms, ammunition, gray cloth, ... which articles are contraband of war; and all trade in, and importation thereof, within the limits aforesaid, is absolutely prohibited."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part III, pg 238)
- 19 Brigadier General Israel Vogdes, USA, arrived and assumed command of the District of Florida, from Colonel Benjamin C. Tilghman, USA, who was sent to command Union post at Tallahassee, Florida.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166-167)
- 20 Major General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding the District of Florida, advised acting Florida Governor Abraham K. Allison "a portion of the militia ... be placed on duty to protect the property and homes ... against deserters, and to retain and maintain proper subordination among the slaves."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part III, pg 819)
- 22 Brigadier General Israel Vogdes, USA, commanding the District of Florida, received official information by flag of truce of the armistice agreed upon between the Federal and Confederate authorities.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)

Brigadier General Jason H. Clanton, CSA, wounded and paroled

at the engagement of Cotton Creek, Florida, [see 25 MARCH] informed Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, that "he had sufficiently recovered to travel" and would be at Milton, Florida on 26 April "ready to embark on the first boat to Barrancas."  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 450-451)

- 25 Brigadier General Israel Vogdes, USA, commanding District of Florida, met with Brigadier General Samuel Jones, CSA, commanding District of Florida, 3:00 PM, at White House, a point ten miles west of Jacksonville, Florida, discussed suspension of hostilities, the 4,000 Union prisoners of war between Baldwin and Lake City, Florida, and other issues. See 26 April 1865 Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part III, pg 318-319)

Major General William T. Sherman, USA, notified Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren, USN, that he thought Jefferson Davis and cabinet were on their way toward Cuba, and that "he will try to reach Florida coast, either Cedar Keys or lower down. It would be well to catch him. Can't you watch the east coast and send word round to the west coast?"  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part III, pg 310)

- 26 Brigadier General Israel Vogdes, USA, commanding the District of Florida, received notice from the Department of the South of the armistice agreed upon between Federal and Confederate authorities.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)

Lieutenant General Joseph E. Johnston, CSA, commanding all Confederate Armies east of the Chattahoochee River, surrendered to Major General William T. Sherman, USA, near Durham's Station, North Carolina.

Brigadier General Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding the District of West Florida, embarked on the steamer *Matamoras*, and proceeded to Milton and Bagdad, Florida, and returned to Fort Barrancas with paroled Brigadier General Jason H. Clanton, CSA, and 200 wounded Confederate soldiers.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 498)

- 28 U.S. Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, notified Major General Edward R. S. Canby, USA, commanding the Army and Military Division of West Mississippi, of the surrender of Lieutenant General Joseph E. Johnston, CSA, and all Confederate forces in his command, from Washington, D. C. to the Chattahoochee River.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 49, Part II, pg 498)

- 28-30 Between 3,000 and 4,000 paroled Union prisoners of war from Andersonville, Georgia, arrived at Jacksonville, via

Tallahassee, Lake City, and Baldwin.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 166)

- 29 Major General Edward R. S. Canby, USA, commanding the Army and Military Division of West Mississippi, notified Brigadier Generals Alexander Asboth, USA, commanding The District of West Florida, at Fort Barrancas, and John Newton, USA, commanding the District of Key West and Tortugas, that they were authorized to accept the surrender of Confederate forces within their Districts, based upon a memorandum of conditions. (1) They were to be paroled until duly exchanged or otherwise released by the authority of the U.S. Government. (2) Artillery, small-arms, ammunition, and other property of the Confederate Government to be turned over, exclusive of side-arms or private horses or baggage of officers. (3) Paroled Confederates authorized to return to their homes. See Appendix for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I Vol 49, Part II, pg 522)

- 30 Brigadier General Israel Vogdes, USA, commanding District of Florida, received and published information on resumption of hostilities and end of the armistice.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part I, pg 167)

Report of the Department of the South, Major General Quincy A. Gillmore, USA, commanding indicated in the District of Florida [Fourth Separate Brigade] 2,882 men aggregate present and absent. The Organization of Troops report indicated the location of companies in the Fourth Separate Brigade. See Charts for full text.  
(WOR: Ser I, Vol 47, Part III, pg 362-363)

***Abstract from returns of the Department of the South, Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore,  
U.S. Army, commanding, for April 30, 1865.***

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
Fourth Separate Brigade (Vogdes) .....	50	1,964	2,303	2,882	—

***Organization of troops in the Department of the South, commanded by  
Maj. Gen. Quincy A. Gillmore, U.S. Army, April 30, 1865.***

**FOURTH SEPARATE BRIGADE.**

Brig. Gen. Ismael Vogdes.

17th Connecticut, Maj. Henry Allen.  
75th Ohio (two companies), Capt. William J. Rannels.  
107th Ohio (detachment), Capt. Philip Setzler.  
3d U.S. Colored Troops, Col. Benjamin C. Tilghman.  
34th U.S. Colored Troops, Col. William W. Marple.  
1st East Florida Cavalry, Lieut. Thomas A. Wilson.

**END  
FILMED**

**DATE:**

*10-92*

**DTIC**